

THE ONE DOCTOR

By Gareth Roberts & Clayton Hickman

The One Doctor came about because we both wanted Christopher Biggins to appear in *Doctor Who*. Simple as that. It wasn't the first idea we had - that concerned a space station run by Biggins which was hosting the Intergalactic Song Contest, and was eventually reworked as our second Big Finish play, *Bang-Bang-a-Boom!* - or even the first submission we made - that was called *Crossroads in Time* (you can read it in the appendices of this book if you want) and would have seen Biggins managing a Midlands motel if it hadn't been rejected - but it was the one that finally gave us the chance to realise our ambition.

Please don't get the impression from all this that we knew Christopher Biggins, or had any sort of guarantee that he'd be interested in appearing in our play. Not a bit of it. The both of us just felt that he was perfect for *Doctor Who* and had been unaccountably overlooked during the show's run on TV. We were determined to put that right. Assuming, of course, that we could get a script accepted and persuade the man himself to do it...

We'd gone through a lot of ideas and drafts, trying to find the right story, and then Gareth suddenly remembered an idea he'd toyed with submitting to the *Doctor Who Magazine* short story competition in the mid-1980s - that the Doctor was being impersonated by somebody else. Together we fleshed out the idea of the Banto Zame character - for Biggins, naturally - and realised that he'd have to be operating in the far future when the Doctor was known as a legendary figure because of his popping up so many times in so many places. Clay thought it might be funny to call it *The One Doctor*, to make people think it was a 'special' in the vein of the *Three/Five/Two/Eight/Infinity Doctors*, when it was actually nothing of the sort. It worked, too.

Banto and Sally-Anne, his assistant-cum-girlfriend, were like the Doctor and Mel... except that they were low-rent criminals. Also, they behaved much more like normal people - they drink, smoke, fancy people - so contrasting them with the Doctor and his assistants, who don't do any of those things, was part of the fun. It was great to have Banto falling for Mel, simply because she's so utterly uncynical - unlike anybody he's met before in his sordid life. Similarly, that's why Sally-Anne falls for Doctor Who; he's solid and reliable, everything Banto isn't.

Neither of us are great fans of stories which are about the Doctor himself, his character and his history, but this one seemed like such an original idea - and there aren't many of those left after forty years of *Doctor Who*. Also, our preference is for stories which are set all in one new world, with its own set of rules and limits, giving the story a good sense of place. But the more we thought about it, the more it seemed like we should use the Banto character, teamed up with Mel, as a contrast to the Doctor, teamed up with Sally-Anne, to have fun with inverting the usual boundaries of the *Doctor Who* format. That meant starting the story at the end of a typical Who adventure, hence our naming the planet 'Generios'.

And so we cooked up a sequence of mini-*Doctor Who* adventures that we could plonk our characters down in. As Gareth had just re-read *Alice in Wonderland*, he

was quite enthused with the idea of moving from place to place, but we were also keen to make sure there was a twist ending with the Cylinder – a nod to those interminable *Star Trek* probes-gone-mad – swallowing up Banto. *The Weakest Link* was at its notorious height when we wrote the script, and so it seemed the natural thing to do. It could just as easily have been *Countdown*. Back when it was on the telly *Doctor Who* used to soak up a lot of cultural references, and if it were still on now we'd surely have had stories using *Pride and Prejudice*, *Big Brother* and *Harry Potter* as their basis. Writing the *Superbrain* questions was a long and tedious business – we'd seriously underestimated how many would be needed – though it was quite amusing to watch the poor actors trying to get to grips with pronouncing all the nonsense we'd just made up. Gareth still loves *The Weakest Link*, by the way.

The idea of an enormously long-lived creature had been around for ages, but Clay's experience of waiting in for a washing machine to be delivered gave it a comic twist. The incredibly fast, short-lived creatures were probably in *Star Trek*, weren't they? Of course lots of other silly things made their way into the finished script. If you've a mind to look, you can find references to Chesney Hawkes, the Smash robots, *Blockbusters*, Ikea, *The Cucumber Song*, *Dr Where?* and the overseas print of *Carnival of Monsters* Episode Two. We recommend you don't bother.

The casting of *The One Doctor* was something we had quite a lot of involvement in. Gary Russell, who was our director as well as our producer and script editor (does the man not sleep?), was more than happy with that as it saved him a lot of effort which he could then devote to the other eight billion things which needed his attention that afternoon. Mark Gatiss was instrumental in getting us the amazing Matt Lucas, and it was at an aftershow party for the *League of Gentlemen's* Drury Lane show that we met Adam Buxton and drunkenly asked him if he'd play a stupid robot for us. Much to our surprise he was still on for it when he'd sobered up. Mark also sounded out Lisa Tarbuck about playing Sally Anne, and she happily agreed. Unfortunately Lisa was whisked away to Montreux at the last minute by the BBC to publicise *Linda Green*, so the hunt was on for a new Sally Anne. Jason Haigh-Ellery, our other producer, found us Clare Buckfield, who turned out to be the most perfect casting imaginable. One blinding stroke of luck was that Stephen Fewell, Clay's mate and a Big Finish veteran, had recently completed a tour of *Lady Windermere's Fan...* with none other than Sir Christopher Biggins! So after a few phone calls and some gushing gratitude from us, our ambition was finally fulfilled and we had our Banto Zame. Stephen himself took on the role of the timid Councillor Potikol, whilst the wonderful Nick Pegg and the even wonderfuller Jane Goddard (doing a frighteningly convincing Anne Robinson) completed the ensemble.

It was great fun writing for Colin Baker and Bonnie Langford, because there's a lot of unexplored potential in the characters on TV, in contrast to a lot of other Doctor/companion teams, who were perhaps better worked out. Mel allows the Sixth Doctor to mellow, because Peri tended to be confrontational and negative and bring out the worst in him. Mel also gives the impression that she wants to be there, which is sadly not the case with most of the other 1980s companions. Added to that, Colin and Bonnie are two of the most dedicated actors to work for Big Finish, and they did absolute wonders with what we gave them. Hearing Bonnie nail Mel's 'never say die' speech in one take was just one jaw-dropping moment amongst many.

Of course some of our original ideas got changed along the way. The whole

Weakest Link segment, for example, only came about during the scripting. In our original outline - which, stupidly, sacrificed a lot of potential larks by pairing off the two Doctors and the two companions rather than mixing and matching - there was a somewhat different trial for the Doctor, based upon those particularly grating shows where twentysomethings screech loudly and Denise Van Outen falls out of her dress. In actual fact it was all rather prescient - as anyone who saw Colin Baker's appearance on Sarah Cox's twentysomething screech-fest *Born Stoppo* can attest.

One of the few major changes to the script was the loss of a scene where Banto and the Doctor have a bit of a scrap. At Gary Russell's request we changed it into a verbal duel, which was felt to be more in keeping with Colin's portrayal. But we still think this would have been rather funny...

BANTO ZAME Listen, do I have to get nasty?
MELANIE I wouldn't try it. We can defend ourselves, you know?
DOCTOR WHO Well said, Mel.
BANTO ZAME Right. Try this for starters 'Doctor'...
FX - BANTO wrestles DOCTOR WHO. DOCTOR WHO gasps.
BANTO ZAME (CONT'D) A Merjidian death-lock. Get out of that! And then you clear off, get it?
DOCTOR WHO (Muffled) You try this...
FX - DOCTOR WHO gains the upper hand over BANTO, who gasps.
BANTO ZAME Oof!
DOCTOR WHO A Suvarian stranglehold!
FX - BANTO wrestles DOCTOR WHO again.
BANTO ZAME Hah! The Lufaran pain-grip!
FX - DOCTOR WHO wrestles BANTO.
DOCTOR WHO Try the Hug of Hankus 4 for size!
FX - The scuffling continues in B/G.
MELANIE This is futile! Time's running out and all you two can do is indulge in a playground scrap!

The only other thing we were sad to lose was the Cylinder naming our hero as Doctor Who during his rundown of the Doctor's many aliases in Part Four. Gary felt that it was a step too far - has he never seen *The War Machines?* - and so he changed it to some obscure *New Adventures* reference. We cried.

Someone else who had input into the final script was Colin Baker himself. Having read and enjoyed it, he emailed Gary with a couple of suggestions, one of them concerning the name of Banto's transport. As scripted it was the TARDIST - a tribute to the mispronunciation that seemed to afflict any member of the public asked about Doctor Who's time machine on TV shows during the Seventies and Eighties, and was recently revived when the first family into the Millennium Dome described it as, 'Just like Dr Who's TARDIST!' Colin felt that the extra 'T' might not come across well enough on audio and suggested it be changed to STARDIS. Which is obviously far far better. But we weren't bitter...

Given that about 70% of the play had to be recorded on the second day due to availability of actors, Gary did a fantastic job in not hitting us - and his directing wasn't half bad either. The unsung hero of *The One Doctor*, however, was sound designer Alistair Lock... who did actually sing, but never mind. From making us all

do the conga in studio, to mispronouncing the cast list so precisely for the trailer, to providing the lovely, unscripted Jelloid ditty in Part Four, Alistair's hard work really made the play something special. Even we got sniffly when the rousing music for the finalé crashed in and fireworks started going off on Generios.

The bonus track - the script for which you can also find in the appendices if you're so inclined - was written by Clay on the morning of the first day of recording, after he'd been mulling it over during the previous, sleepless, night. Originally *The One Doctor* had been scheduled for release in August, but we both felt it would sit more comfortably at Christmas, when people generally feel more forgiving. Luckily Gary agreed. That being the case (and even though the play was recorded in April), we thought a bit of real festiveness wouldn't go astray, and the opportunity for Colin's Doctor to wish the audience a very Merry Christmas in tribute to *The Feast of Steven* was too good to pass over. Luckily, the first day of recording finished a little early and Gary, Colin and Bonnie indulged us by committing it to tape in a single take. Ho ho ho.

People slagged off *Doctor Who* on TV in the 1980s for being like a panto - but actually the show took itself far too seriously for that, which is why it's often a bit daft. When the series relaxed a bit more, like in *Mindwarp* or *Delta and the Bannermen*, it was actually more involving and enjoyable. The positive feedback we've had to *The One Doctor* shows that people still like their *Doctor Who* to be fun and silly from time to time, and it's to the series' credit that the format can happily cope with transdimensional shelves and northern-accented jellies without crumbling into sparks and dust.

So there we are. That's the story of this story. We hope that, even without the brilliance of Baker, Bonnie, Buckfield and Biggins, or Alistair's astonishing music and effects, *The One Doctor* will still raise a smile. Oh, and if you're wondering why the main character is credited as 'Doctor Who' throughout, it's a superstition of Gareth's. When the end credits of *Doctor Who* started to refer to him as 'The Doctor', the series' popularity began to decline, so Gareth thought we should invoke the ghost of *Doctor Who* Past, and try and recapture a little of that lost populist appeal. And, of course, it looked funnier on the page.

We won Best Audio in the *DWM* poll though, so maybe there was something in it after all...

THE ONE DOCTOR

CAST

| | |
|---------------------|---------------------|
| DOCTOR WHO | Colin Baker |
| MELANIE | Bonnie Langford |
| CITIZEN SOKKERY | Nicholas Pegg |
| COUNCILLOR POTIKOL | Stephen Fewell |
| BANTO ZAME | Christopher Biggins |
| SALLY-ANNE STUBBINS | Clare Buckfield |
| GUARD | Mark Wright |
| CYLINDER VOICE | Matt Lucas |
| QUESTIONER | Jane Goddard |
| MENTOS | Nicholas Pegg |
| ASSEMBLER 1 | Adam Buxton |
| ASSEMBLER 2 | Stephen Fewell |
| JELLOID | Matt Lucas |

PART ONE

1. INT. TARDIS CONTROL ROOM - DAY

Up on DOCTOR WHO's voice... deep and menacing...

DOCTOR WHO At last, I control everything...² you are my pawns, to do with as I please... you have no choice but to bend to my will... yes, I own you... I am your creator - and I can be your *destroyer*...

FX - The TARDIS background in-flight hum fades up quick.

MELANIE Honestly, Doctor, stop being so melodramatic.

DOCTOR WHO Mel, am I not permitted an occasional moment of melodrama?

MELANIE Yes, but it's only a game of Monopoly.

DOCTOR WHO A game that I am winning... yes, there is no power but mine... I control Park Lane, Mayfair, the waterworks...

MELANIE Doctor!

DOCTOR WHO I want to imagine what it feels like to be a power crazed dictator. See into the enemy's mind.

MELANIE And?

DOCTOR WHO Boring. And I hate hotels. Your roll.

FX - Rolling dice in a tumbler.

MELANIE A double six.

DOCTOR WHO You're the iron, I'm the dog.

MELANIE Sorry.

DOCTOR WHO You're getting absent-minded. Most unlike you.

MELANIE *(Groans)* Oh no.

DOCTOR WHO Excellent. You must surrender to my will... two thousand, two hundred and sixty pounds rent, please.

MELANIE All right.³

DOCTOR WHO By the way, why did you reset the coordinates this morning?

MELANIE I thought you did.

DOCTOR WHO Yet more absent-mindedness...

MELANIE I haven't been near the controls. Guide's honour.

DOCTOR WHO *(Amused)* You were a Girl Guide?

FX - MEL moves to the console. She punches some keys with appropriate bleeps.

MELANIE Never mind that. These readings... the TARDIS is way off course...

DOCTOR WHO Way, way off course... we've drifted millennia into the far future...

MELANIE Who's done this? Who could control the TARDIS?

DOCTOR WHO The same person who always does - or tries to. Me.

MELANIE What do you mean?

DOCTOR WHO I was experimenting with the navigation settings... and I must have accidentally switched on the wide-range distress transceiver. Knocked it with my elbow.⁴ The TARDIS responded automatically, like a dog fetching a bone. Yes, listen...

FX - An urgent series of high-pitched bleeps.

MELANIE Where's it coming from?

DOCTOR WHO I don't know. But we're almost on top of it. (*Wearily*) We'd better materialise, I suppose...

MELANIE Don't worry, Doctor. We'll finish the game later. What's the matter?

DOCTOR WHO I just wish, sometimes, people could sort their problems out all by themselves. I mean, why does it always have to be *me*?

2. EXT. GENERIOS STREET - DAY

FX - The sound of cheering and laughing. Celebratory music. A very big party is underway. Perhaps the sound of some hovering vehicle zooming past. This is the far future, after all. The TARDIS materialises with its customary wheezing and groaning. Nobody takes a blind bit of notice.

3. INT. TARDIS CONTROL ROOM - DAY

MELANIE So - where exactly are we?

DOCTOR WHO The vulgar end of time.

MELANIE Eh?

DOCTOR WHO I prefer never to go this far.

MELANIE Why?

DOCTOR WHO Everything's been discovered. Everybody knows everybody else, and everybody knows everybody else's business. All the wars are over - the interesting ones anyway. Technology's made every pleasure affordable. Nobody strives... not that there's anything worth striving for... it's hedonism, hedonism, hedonism all the way...

MELANIE And that's a bad thing? How far ahead are we? After my time?

DOCTOR WHO Oh, 1989 is long gone. Although I suppose that's one reason for us to look on the bright side!

MELANIE Hmm. I might get a straight answer from the data bank...

FX - Bleeps and general key-punching as MEL consults the data bank.

MELANIE (*CONT'D*) According to this we're on Generios 1⁵, central planet of the Great Generios System, in the constellation of... Generios. Hmm. 'A mighty galactic trade Empire spanning seventeen planets'. And they need our help.

DOCTOR WHO Let's have a look at the old scanner.

FX - The scanner shutters slide open. We hear the sound of the crowd outside.

MELANIE Looks like a party.

DOCTOR WHO Appearances can be deceptive.

MELANIE Yes... perhaps they've been brainwashed into submission by invading aliens...

DOCTOR WHO (*Gently chiding*) Melodrama! Pass me my coat, will you?⁶ (*Shrugging it on*) Let's divine the truth of the matter.

FX - The TARDIS doors open.

4. EXT. GENERIOS STREET - DAY

FX - More cheering of VE Day proportions. MEL emerges from the TARDIS.

MELANIE Don't think much of this place. It's kind of bland - everybody and everything the same...⁸

FX - DOCTOR WHO follows MEL out and locks the TARDIS door.

DOCTOR WHO I did warn you.⁹ Wonder why they're all so jubilant?
A drunk, but amiable Generiosian, SOKKERY, approaches.

SOKKERY Hey, citizen! I like the coat!

DOCTOR WHO Thank you... but would you mind not dribbling on to it...¹⁰

SOKKERY Fancy a drop of this?

FX - A half empty bottle is sloshed about.

DOCTOR WHO I rarely drink.

SOKKERY Come on, chum!¹¹ Everybody's got to let go on a day like this!

MELANIE He rarely lets go.

DOCTOR WHO What's happened? We've only just arrived. We picked up a distress call.

SOKKERY Sorry... wasted journey. Here, you have a drop, pretty lady... anyone ever tell you you've got amazing ringlets?¹²

MELANIE Never mind my ringlets. What are you celebrating?

SOKKERY We've been saved... the Skelloids are vanquished...¹³

MELANIE Skelloids?

DOCTOR WHO Skelloids?

SOKKERY *(With relish)* Ferocious aliens from the outer reaches of deep space... like living skeletons. There were hundreds of them, vicious and deadly, ready to land their mother ship on this, our Great City of Generios. They would have enslaved us.

MELANIE But you defeated them?

SOKKERY Oh no. We were useless. The Great Council tried to make peace with the Skelloids and failed. And our defences were totally inadequate.

DOCTOR WHO So - what became of these 'Skelloids'?¹⁴ Did they just pack up and go home for tea?

SOKKERY Course not - the Skelloids never give up. The Doctor sorted them out for us, didn't he?

A big incidental music moment.

DOCTOR WHO The Doctor... did you say the Doctor?

SOKKERY Yeah... you know, the mysterious Time Lord. Travels the universe poking his nose in, putting things to rights. You must know the legends.

DOCTOR WHO Yes, I believe I have heard something...

FX - We faintly hear a group of people dancing the conga nearby.

SOKKERY I thought it was a lot of billy rot until he actually turned up and saved the day. With his assistant - phwoarr, lovely girl. Anyway, I've spent long enough talking to you two - there's a conga over there with my name on it!

FX - SOKKERY goes off, taking the conga with him.

DOCTOR WHO I said they were vulgar

MELANIE It looks like you've already saved the day, then. Beaten yourself to it.

DOCTOR WHO Somehow I doubt it.¹⁵ I've never been to Generios before.

MELANIE Then you will in the future.

DOCTOR WHO I doubt that too.

MELANIE Why?

DOCTOR WHO I can sense the proximity of another self, having experienced it on several occasions.¹⁶ My hair stands on end.

MELANIE (*Laughing*) How could it?
DOCTOR WHO (*Deadly serious*) Figuratively speaking. And this time it hasn't.
MELANIE You're really rattled, aren't you?
DOCTOR WHO Yes. Because if I didn't save this planet from the evil Skelloids - who is the Doctor that did...?

5. INT. COUNCIL CHAMBER - DAY

A big, draughty, vaulted room. The celebrating crowd can be heard - close, but muffled. Enter POTIKOL, the rather fey and nervous head councillor.

POTIKOL Listen to the citizens! This day is truly unique in the Great Annals of Generios! The people rejoice!
FX - We hear the crowd chanting, 'WE WANT THE DOCTOR! WE WANT THE DOCTOR!'

POTIKOL (*CONT'D*) They're crying out for their saviour! Are you sure you won't step out on to the balcony, Doctor?
Ah, but this isn't really the Doctor. Here we meet BANTO ZAME and SALLY-ANNE, confidence tricksters. Both are currently doing fair, if rather over-the-top impressions of Doctor Who and his assistant. BANTO is being terribly bombastic and grandiose while SALLY-ANNE is the very model of simpering naivete. These, as we shall see, are not their natural states.

BANTO ZAME I'm sorry, Councillor Potikol, but I hate farewells.

POTIKOL But you've done so much for us - saved the seventeen planets from certain annihilation...

BANTO ZAME Please - any passing genius would have done the same.

POTIKOL (*Laughs obsequiously*) Tell me again - how did you defeat the Skelloids?

BANTO ZAME It was simple enough - after I worked out their entire life cycle was based on the absorption of hydrogen through their gill-plates.

POTIKOL Go on.

BANTO ZAME I simply inverted the core of their hydrogen stabilisers. With a little help from my psychic screwdriver - and a little help from Sally Anne.

SALLY-ANNE I wondered when you'd get round to mentioning me.

POTIKOL Generios is indebted to your assistant as well, Doctor.

SALLY-ANNE So the core sucked hydrogen from the Skelloids instead of supplying it to them.

BANTO ZAME Result - skedaddle, Skelloids! They won't be back again - well, at least, not for another couple of aeons. Anyway, Potikol, time's winged chariot marches on - especially for a Time Lord. Sally-Anne and I really must get back to the TARDIST (*sic*).¹⁷

POTIKOL Must you leave us, Doctor?

BANTO ZAME I'm afraid so.

POTIKOL How can we ever repay you for saving us?

BANTO ZAME I don't expect repayment - the work I do is reward in itself.

SALLY-ANNE (*As if struck by an idea*) Hey Doctor - what about the pluvon power crystals?

BANTO ZAME Eh? Oh yes...

POTIKOL Pluvon power crystals?

SALLY-ANNE We need them for the TARDIST And we're running dry.

POTIKOL I'm afraid we have no such crystals The seventeen planets were mined out generations ago

SALLY-ANNE Yes - but you've got the cash we could use to buy them.

BANTO ZAME Come on, Sally-Anne, that's out of the question. Goodbye, Councillor -

POTIKOL One moment, Doctor. How much do you need to buy these crystals you seek?

BANTO ZAME Really, I won't hear of it

POTIKOL Doctor

SALLY-ANNE About a hundred million credits.

POTIKOL (Shocked) A hundred million...

BANTO ZAME Yes, quite. It's our problem, not yours. So we'll just slip quietly away. .

POTIKOL No. I won't hear of it If a hundred million is what you need, Doctor, Sally-Anne - a hundred million is what you shall have.

BANTO ZAME No, Potikol, I absolutely insist I will not take your money

POTIKOL Please, Doctor. What is a hundred million credits weighed against the lives of all in the seventeen planets?

SALLY-ANNE Go on, Doctor

BANTO ZAME I do have principles, you know .

SALLY-ANNE You won't have much use for them if we don't get those power crystals.

BANTO ZAME You have a point. . Very well, Councillor

POTIKOL You will accept our gift

BANTO ZAME As a loan. I will find some way to repay you.

POTIKOL Doctor, Doctor, what more could you have done for us? I will go at once to the Great Bank of Generios and make out a cheque.¹⁸

BANTO ZAME Er... I'd prefer cash I don't actually have a bank account myself. Never had much use for money.

POTIKOL I understand. It shall be done. Wait here.

FX - POTIKOL exits through a sliding door Immediately he's gone, BANTO ZAME and SALLY-ANNE burst into laughter and revert to their real personas. SALLY-ANNE is as common as muck, while BANTO is cynical, brusque and ever-so-slightly camp.

BANTO ZAME Ha ha. there's one born every nanosecond. .

SALLY-ANNE Banto, this lot have gotta be the doziest load of prawns yet.

BANTO ZAME 'Please, Doctor What is a hundred million credits weighed against the lives of all in the seventeen planets?' What a plank!

SALLY-ANNE 'Time marches on - especially for a Time Lord' Loved it Pass me one of them beers.

FX - Two lager cans are opened.

BANTO ZAME To us - and to our 'pluvon power crystals'

SALLY-ANNE (Mock appalled) Oh Doctor - you're not going to spend that money on something else, are you?

BANTO ZAME Come here and give us a kiss.

FX - BANTO ZAME and SALLY ANNE kiss.

6. EXT. OUTSIDE COUNCIL COMPLEX - DAY

We're outside the council complex now - much FX cheering, clapping and good-natured hammering on the door.

DOCTOR WHO This must be it - their Great Council Complex. Everything around here seems to be Great.¹⁹

MELANIE Great! So how are we going to get inside? Knock on the door?

DOCTOR WHO Everybody's knocking on the door.

FX - The crowd start cheering, 'WE WANT THE DOCTOR' again.

MELANIE Somebody's popular. (*She sees SOKKERY*) Oh no...²⁰

DOCTOR WHO What?

MELANIE It's him again.

SOKKERY Hello.²¹ Come to see the Doctor, have you? They reckon he's gonna step out on to the balcony up there.

DOCTOR WHO Is that some sort of newspaper you've got there?

SOKKERY Eh? Oh yeah, Great Visi-Echo of Generios. Special commemorative edition.

MELANIE That must be him - plastered all over the front page...

SOKKERY Yeah, that's the Doctor.²²

DOCTOR WHO Give me that...

FX - DOCTOR WHO snatches the newspaper.

SOKKERY Here, steady on, there's a voucher for the Great Commemorative Tea-towel in there..

FX - DOCTOR WHO jabs a finger at the paper.

DOCTOR WHO Look at that Mel! It is definitely not me!

MELANIE How can you be so sure?

DOCTOR WHO I have assumed several guises over the centuries but have always maintained an essential air of Olympian dignity. Look at this buffoon.

MELANIE He looks all right to me.

DOCTOR WHO All right? *All right?* Florid complexion, nose like a mulberry . and his figure is positively rotund!

MELANIE You're not exactly sylphlike.

DOCTOR WHO There is a difference between being big-boned and being portly! There's no doubt about it - I must confront this impostor. Impersonating a Time Lord is a serious offence I may need this paper as evidence.

FX - DOCTOR WHO stuffs the paper into his pocket.

SOKKERY Hey!

MELANIE How are we going to get in?

SOKKERY (*Sulky now*) You can't. Without a pass.²³

DOCTOR WHO I can go anywhere I like. (*Cunning, slow*) Mel... how's your wilting willow impersonation?

Big, end-of scene twinkling music. A beat.²⁴

MELANIE What? What are you talking about?

DOCTOR WHO I mean - I've got a plan.

MELANIE Why didn't you just say so?

DOCTOR WHO Er . yes. Sorry.

7. INT. COUNCIL CHAMBER - DAY.

We're back with *BANTO ZAME* and *SALLY-ANNE*, still smooching.

SALLY-ANNE 'Ere, get off, Banto. Someone might come through that door any second. Won't suit our image to be all crumpled and rumped.

BANTO ZAME I wonder where he is with that cash? It's been twenty minutes.

SALLY-ANNE What, you don't reckon he might've rumbled us?²⁵

BANTO ZAME Potikol? He's a fool. Remember when the 'Skelloid Commander' told him to (*alien voice*) 'surrender or die'?

SALLY-ANNE Yeah, hur hur... I thought he were gonna have an accident.

FX POTIKOL's footsteps

BANTO ZAME That's him - get up Quick sticks! And hide those cans!

FX - They straighten themselves out The beer cans are flung into a corner as the door opens and POTIKOL enters. BANTO and SALLY-ANNE revert to their Doctor Who personas.

POTIKOL Doctor, Doctor...

SALLY-ANNE Oh Councillor, did you manage to get the money?

BANTO ZAME I still feel extremely dubious about this arrangement, Sally Anne.

SALLY-ANNE Ignore him, Councillor too proud, that's his trouble

POTIKOL I'm afraid there's been a slight problem

SALLY-ANNE You what? I mean - a problem, you say?

POTIKOL The computer links to the Great Bank of Generios are being .. influenced somehow.

BANTO ZAME Influenced?

POTIKOL Yes. In fact, all the workings of the Great Computers of Generios are slipping somewhat out of our control.

SALLY-ANNE What - your cash machine's on the blink?²⁶

POTIKOL If only it were that simple.

BANTO ZAME Potikol, please get to the point.

POTIKOL At first we thought the interference was perhaps an after-effect of the Skelloids' handiwork.

BANTO ZAME I doubt it. I mean - unlikely

POTIKOL But our Great Radarscopes have just reported a foreign object - a piece of space debris - that has drifted into the System.

BANTO ZAME And it's interfering with your computers somehow?

POTIKOL We think so. But do not fret, Doctor. I have dispatched a space dredger to blast it out of the skies²⁷ All will be well. Excuse me while I attend to the arrangements..

FX - POTIKOL exits. The door closes. BANTO and SALLY-ANNE revert to type.

SALLY-ANNE I told you. They've cottoned on. We ought to get out of here.

BANTO ZAME And lose our chance of a hundred million credits?

SALLY-ANNE You don't believe all his fluff about flotsam?

BANTO ZAME Why ever not? There are still huge chunks of debris floating round from the Skardu/Rosbrix wars.

SALLY-ANNE Floating out this far?

BANTO ZAME Just relax, my little coelacanth. Here have another can. Listen, if they had the slightest doubt about us, we'd be clapped in irons by now.

FX - Can opens

SALLY-ANNE (*Taking a sip*) Ooh... doesn't sound too uncomfortable, if I was with you.

BANTO ZAME And I with you, my turtle dove.

SALLY-ANNE Ooh, be romantic.

BANTO ZAME Later. When I've got that hundred million in my hand I'll be very romantic.

8. INT. COUNCIL COMPLEX CORRIDORS- DAY

inside the Council Complex. FX doors open. We hear the crowd.

GUARD This way, sir .

FX - The shuffling of feet as the GUARD and DOCTOR WHO carry MELANIE inside. She groans, feebly.

DOCTOR WHO I'm sorry, she's usually a very picture of health.

FX - Doors close. The crowd are cut out.

MELANIE (Woozy) Oh .. where am I? I feel..

DOCTOR WHO Now now, Mel, you've just fainted in the crush, that's all. Just lay her down here, sir, against the wall.²⁸

DOCTOR WHO There you go.

MELANIE It must have been the excitement of being that close to the Doctor. .

DOCTOR WHO (Arch) Indeed.

MELANIE I could do with a glass of water - clear my head ²⁹

DOCTOR WHO If it's not too much trouble. We'll just wait here. Innocently.

GUARD Right you are, sir. I won't be a second - there's a cooler round the corner

FX - The GUARD moves off

DOCTOR WHO Right. Let's slip off.

MELANIE Which way? These corridors all look the same.

DOCTOR WHO Not to a corridor veteran like me. This way - I'm rather excited about meeting the Doctor myself.

FX - They move off, stealthily

9. INT. ANOTHER CORRIDOR - DAY

The GUARD is filling a glass of water from the cooler and humming softly to himself. FX - water pouring into cup. We hear POTIKOL approaching in a great flurry from a distance.

POTIKOL Guard. Guard! Summon the council!

GUARD Councillor! Whatever's the matter?

POTIKOL A great calamity - another great calamity - has befallen us! Inform the council that our dredger has been destroyed.³⁰

GUARD Not the Skelloids?

POTIKOL No, not the Skelloids. Well don't just stand there man, get off and summon the council. And give me that glass of water.

FX - He snatches the glass and gulps it down

GUARD Yes sir. On my way sir.

The GUARD hurries off.

POTIKOL Oh, what a day. . what a day . .

10. INT. OUTSIDE COUNCIL CHAMBER - DAY

DOCTOR WHO and MELANIE have arrived outside the chamber. They are whispering.

DOCTOR WHO This must be the place.
MELANIE How can you be sure?
DOCTOR WHO That sign on the door - 'Great Council Chamber of Generios'.
MELANIE Well you were standing in front of it!
DOCTOR WHO I imagine this is where we'll find their guest of honour.
 Listen.

11. INT. COUNCIL CHAMBER - DAY

BANTO ZAME and SALLY-ANNE are now rather merry

BANTO ZAME .. we could buy ourselves a nice slab of real estate out on the rim worlds

SALLY-ANNE The rim worlds?

BANTO ZAME Yes, what about buying up Abidos?

SALLY-ANNE Abidos? There's nowt there.³¹

BANTO ZAME There will be We'll build a pleasure complex. .

SALLY-ANNE Oooohh...

BANTO ZAME To satisfy our every desire... We'll be outside the law. No amusement too extreme... no diversion too decadent...

SALLY-ANNE We could have bingo and ice rinks.

BANTO ZAME I was thinking more of a total sensory immersion device, like they have on Zynglat 3.

SALLY-ANNE Ooooh . I like the sound of total sensory emulsion.

BANTO ZAME Immersion..

FX - The door bursts open as DOCTOR WHO and MEL enter

BANTO ZAME (*CONT'D*) What the ? Here - who are you?

DOCTOR WHO I think it is I who should be directing that question to you.

BANTO ZAME I, sir, am the Doctor

DOCTOR WHO The Doctor, eh?

MELANIE You're not the Doctor, this is the Doctor!

SALLY-ANNE 'Ere, what's going on?

BANTO ZAME Oh, I understand. Yes, it's all becoming very clear You are the Doctor then?

DOCTOR WHO Indeed! I am the one and only and there's nobody I'd rather be!

MELANIE Exactly. You're a fraud - so obviously bogus!

SALLY-ANNE Eh?

BANTO ZAME Don't you see, Sal? You can't have an original idea nowadays. Now listen you this is my patch, and I invented this operation, so hop off

DOCTOR WHO I'm not hopping anywhere I am the Doctor!

BANTO ZAME Yeah, yeah, I'm the Doctor, you're the Doctor, we're all the flipping Doctor. But this is my system, I've been working West Galaxy a long time, twenty five years in this business.³²

SALLY-ANNE So you'll do an about-turn if you fancy keeping your elbows intact.

MELANIE I must really be missing something here. Who are these jokers?

DOCTOR WHO An immaculate deception, Mel Allow me to 'double' check...

BANTO ZAME Here, get your hands off my chest!³³

FX - BANTO slaps DOCTOR WHO's hands away.

DOCTOR WHO There we are A single heartbeat - if he's a Time Lord then I am Marie of Romania.

SALLY-ANNE You'd better not try that on me.

MELANIE I'm still lagging behind here.

DOCTOR WHO It all seems quite clear to me, Mel. They turn up at a planet, fake an alien invasion somehow -

MELANIE I get it - they sweep in, foil the invasion and claim the credit.

DOCTOR WHO Playing off my not inconsiderable renown. Well, it's got to stop!

SALLY-ANNE Too right it has.

FX - The door opens and POTIKOL and two GUARDS enter.

POTIKOL Doctor, Doctor, you must... what is going on?

SALLY-ANNE (*Simpering*) Oh Councillor, you've simply got to help us. These people are intruders

BANTO ZAME They're overexcited fans.

DOCTOR WHO Fans? Fans?

BANTO ZAME I get them all the time. 'Doctor, what was it like on the planet Zenta? Doctor, what were you thinking when you defeated the Deadly Dustbins?' et cetera, et cetera

POTIKOL I see. Guards?³¹ Take these two away.

FX - Door opens.

GUARD Sir?

POTIKOL Yes, take these two intruders away.

GUARD Sir.³²

FX - The GUARD grabs DOCTOR WHO and MELANIE.

MELANIE Hey! Get your hands off me!

DOCTOR WHO This is an outrage! I am the Doctor! I *am* the Doctor!³⁶ They are carted away and the door shuts. DOCTOR WHO rants ad lib as he is led away.

BANTO ZAME Please be gentle with them. It's really very sad.

SALLY-ANNE Did you sort out the problem at the Great Bank, Councillor?

POTIKOL If only I had. Doctor, Sally-Anne, we are in terrible danger.

SALLY-ANNE Not the Skelloids?

POTIKOL No, *not* the Skelloids. That object has destroyed our dredger - and it's heading straight for us!³⁷

A bit of an awkward silence

POTIKOL (*CONT'D*) Doctor - er, did you hear what I said?

BANTO ZAME (*Laughs*) Yes, yes, very good, Potikol, I get it. Very funny.³⁸

POTIKOL Doctor, this is in deadly earnest. I wouldn't joke with you.

SALLY-ANNE You mean - there really is a UFO heading here?

POTIKOL Yes. Thank goodness you're still here with us, Doctor. Only you can save us now!

BANTO ZAME (*Gulping, very uncertain*) Quite. Oh...

13. INT. CELL - DAY

FX - GUARDS manhandle DOCTOR WHO and MEL into a cell and close the bars, slide a bolt, i.e lock them in Dank, echoing atmos here.³⁹

GUARD (Stern) You stay there until the Councillor decides what to do with you.¹⁰

MELANIE This is a travesty of justice. You can't treat us like this, we're the innocent parties. We have rights you know! Don't we even get any food?

GUARD (Friendly) Yeah, course There's a machine in that corner Next to the sofa.

MELANIE Oh yes, sorry.

GUARD We've got business to attend to.¹¹

FX - The GUARDS exit up some steps. A door clangs shut.

MELANIE Doctor, don't look so downhearted. It's not as if those two are actually doing any harm.

DOCTOR WHO It's not you whose reputation is being actively besmirched.

MELANIE It's quite a clever scam, really. I almost admire their pluck How do they know who you and the Time Lords are anyway? You don't normally like to advertise your presence.

DOCTOR WHO This is the vulgar end of time, remember, Mel. Everything's been said, done, bought and sold. Cheapened. (Sighs) I've become a legend. A laughable footnote in the history of the universe. People doubt I ever existed Like Father Christmas.

MELANIE Perhaps people here leave mince pies out for you. Oh come on, Doctor, that was worth a smile

DOCTOR WHO I had hoped for a rather more fitting remembrance. Nowadays it seems any Tom, Dick or Cephalopod can go round claiming to be me, trading on my reputation

MELANIE Well let's keep that reputation intact by getting out of this place.

DOCTOR WHO (Pulling himself together) Yes, you're right.¹²

FX DOCTOR WHO moves to the door, rattles the bars and taps the lock

DOCTOR WHO (CONT'D) Hmm, a simple trisomic lock. Should be easy... for a 'legend' like me.

He and MEL laugh. FX A wave of feedback type noise starts to fade up gradually

MELANIE What's that? An alarm?

DOCTOR WHO I don't think so... It sounds like... like a multiphasing corpolectric soundwave! Very nasty! Who could be...?

MELANIE It's getting louder

DOCTOR WHO Concentrate, Mel.¹³ Try and blot it out! It's our... only chance.. to.

FX The noise gets deafening.

13. EXT. GENERIOS STREET - DAY

The noise is louder here. The crowd are now crying out in terror The sound of a huge engine getting closer. Wind whips around. SOKKERY has to shout to make himself heard over the hubbub

SOKKERY¹⁴ (Now very drunk) Whassat? Whassat thing? It's huger than the sky!

FX - He takes a swig from the bottle.

SOKKERY (CONT'D) Oh and we were having such a laugh... keep it down up there can't ya? Y'hear me...? I said...

His voice is lost in the din.

14. INT. COUNCIL CHAMBER - DAY

FX - The noise is deafening here. They're having to shout louder and louder.

POTIKOL Doctor - that sound - it's coming from the alien object! It's right above the city!⁴⁵

BANTO ZAME (*Panicked*) Don't look at me! I've no idea what it is.

SALLY-ANNE It's massive! Doctor, do something!

POTIKOL Help us, Doctor!

BANTO ZAME (*Yelling*) I can't! I can't!

15. INT. CELL - DAY.

MEL and DOCTOR WHO are still struggling against the din. Their voices slur as the soundwave invades their heads

MELANIE Aaargh... Doctor... I can't... can't bear it! What... is... it?

DOCTOR WHO (*Struggling, his voice reaching a crescendo of pain and fear*) .a weapon. . must fight. . concentrate... aargh. . it's.. destroying .. our minds!!

CRASH IN CLOSING THEME.

END OF PART ONE.

PART TWO

14. INT. COUNCIL CHAMBER - DAY (REPRISE)⁴⁶

FX - The noise is deafening here. They're having to shout louder and louder

POTIKOL Doctor - that sound it's coming from the alien object! It's right above the city!

BANTO ZAME (*Panicked*) Don't look at me! I've no idea what it is.

SALLY-ANNE It's massive Doctor, do something.

POTIKOL Help us, Doctor!

BANTO ZAME (*Yelling*) I can't! I can't!

15. INT. CELL - DAY

MEL and DOCTOR WHO are still struggling against the din Their voices slur as the soundwave invades their heads.

MELANIE Aaargh. . Doctor. . I can't... can't bear it! What.. is... it?

DOCTOR WHO (*Struggling, his voice reaching a crescendo of pain and fear*) .. a weapon .. must fight... concentrate .. aargh.. it's. destroying... our minds!

MELANIE Doc - tor

DOCTOR WHO Concentrate, Mel... we must... clear...

FX - The noise suddenly cuts out.

DOCTOR WHO (*CONT'D*) - our heads .

He realises the noise has stopped.

DOCTOR WHO (*CONT'D*) Peculiar... Are you all right?

MELANIE It's stopped. I... I'm fine, I think. Just dizzy Who would want to do that?

DOCTOR WHO I really don't know. I thought for a moment that - "

CYLINDER VOICE (*In, huge, booming*) I trust I have your attention.

(N.B. We can tell the voice is booming out over the entire planet.)

MELANIE Who is that?

DOCTOR WHO Whoever made the noise I'd imagine. Ssh, listen...

16. INT. COUNCIL CHAMBER - DAY

CYLINDER VOICE Citizens of Generios, you will listen

POTIKOL Doctor, what is it?

BANTO ZAME (*Authoritative*) A mysterious voice.

SALLY-ANNE From that thing in the sky?

BANTO ZAME I think it likely.

CYLINDER VOICE I wish to speak to your leader.

POTIKOL Oh. Er .. that is I

CYLINDER VOICE Speak up. My sensors are homing in on your location

POTIKOL (*Louder*) It is I. Sir

CYLINDER VOICE You are the one they call Potikol?

POTIKOL Yes. What can we of Generios do for you?

CYLINDER VOICE I have been sent to collect Tribute.

A beat The echoes of 'Tribute' die away.

POTIKOL Um. What kind of tribute?

CYLINDER VOICE (*Angry*) You know what kind!

POTIKOL Er, really sir, I don't. Perhaps you could -

CYLINDER VOICE My purpose is to collect Tribute. I must have the three greatest treasures of the Generios System. Or I will destroy you all!

17. INT. CELL - DAY

DOCTOR WHO and MEL have been listening attentively. The CYLINDER VOICE goes on as they talk

CYLINDER VOICE (*B/G*) These must be presented to me in good repair. You will bring them to me and I will analyse them in order to assess their value. Failure to do so will result in immediate death for your peoples.⁴⁸

DOCTOR WHO Incredible. It must be transmitting to the entire planet.

MELANIE It sounds rather unforgiving.

DOCTOR WHO We must get out of here.

MELANIE But how?

DOCTOR WHO That electronic food dispenser... it might take a bit of work but that could be our means of escape...

18. INT. COUNCIL CHAMBER - DAY

CYLINDER VOICE (*NB: recorded in this scene but used in Sc 17*) These must be presented to me in good repair. You will bring them to me and I will analyse them in order to assess their value. Failure to do so will result in immediate death for your peoples.⁴⁹

POTIKOL Sir, it will take some time for us to assemble the items you require. There are seventeen planets in our Great Union -

CYLINDER VOICE You have five marlegs to comply.

POTIKOL Five marlegs?

CYLINDER VOICE Yes. It is more than enough time.

POTIKOL Pardon me, but how long is a marleg exactly?

CYLINDER VOICE It is exactly fifteen and a half gluarbs long of course.⁵⁰

SALLY-ANNE And how long's a gluarb?

CYLINDER VOICE (*Heavy sigh, pause*) Five marlegs is equivalent to three of your hours. I shall speak again then. Beware - if you fail to bring the Tribute, my response will be swift and merciless.

FX A speaker type noise to indicate the Voice has stopped speaking

POTIKOL Doctor, do you think it can do what it claims?

BANTO ZAME I'm very much afraid it can, Councillor. And in the time it's given us, we don't have any option but to collect what it wants.

SALLY-ANNE So what are we going to do, Doctor?

BANTO ZAME Obviously, we shall need the TARDIST. Councillor, could you arrange for it to be brought here, very urgently? I must set off at once.

POTIKOL Of course. And I shall compile a list of the three greatest treasures of Generios and their locations.

BANTO ZAME What? Oh yes of course.

POTIKOL Oh thank you, Doctor. What bad luck. Two alien threats in as many days. But what good luck to have you here to deal with them. I shall go and order the TARDIST to be brought here at once.

FX POTIKOL exits. BANTO and SALLY-ANNE revert to type.

SALLY-ANNE Well done. Now we can get out of here before that big hairy UFO blots this lot.

BANTO ZAME What big hairy UFO?

SALLY-ANNE The one that just blasted our earholes, you git. The one in the sky!

BANTO ZAME Think about it. 'Bring me the three greatest treasures' this mysterious voice says.

SALLY-ANNE Yeah?

BANTO ZAME Don't you see? It's another version of our operation!

SALLY-ANNE (*Figuring it out*) What you mean that curly haired piece that was just in here

BANTO ZAME It's his version of the Skelloids. Pay up or I'll destroy you. So he goes and gets the treasure, no questions asked, and he's off before you can say Theory of Parallel Matter.

SALLY-ANNE The rotten swine. Conning these people.

BANTO ZAME Yes. At least I give them a sense of being saved, and they're none the wiser. He scarpers and leaves them feeling like a right bunch of Quarks. No style.

SALLY-ANNE So that thing in the sky. .?

BANTO ZAME Projection I expect. Like the Skelloid mothership. No originality.

SALLY-ANNE That voice was right convincing though. Gave me goose pimples.

BANTO ZAME Yeah, granted, but you don't get the same effect with audio. People want to actually see the monsters. Remember when that Skelloid materialised in front of the Council?

SALLY-ANNE Classy, yeah. Here, we can't leave, then - not without our hundred million, let Curlytop and Ginge walk off with the loot.

BANTO ZAME Did you think I would? Nobody pushes me off my patch. I'm going to see he gets what's coming.

19. INT. CELL - DAY

FX - Loud clangs as DOCTOR WHO and MEL use the food machine to batter the door down.

MELANIE (*Out of puff*) When you said you were... going to use the... dispenser to get the door open. I didn't think you meant like this ..

DOCTOR WHO One more heave... (*FX - The door gives way.*) There we are. Careful with it. . (*FX - They put the food machine down.*) Ahh. When science stumbles, force has a certain finesse. Now - we must discover more about that voice. Come on.

MELANIE Hold on, Doctor.

DOCTOR WHO Yes?

MELANIE Two things. One - aren't the guards going to come rushing down here after all that racket?

DOCTOR WHO Mel, the people here think they've only got five marlegs - sorry, three hours - left to live. Keeping anybody locked up will be the last thing on their minds. Two?¹

MELANIE That voice sounded fishy to me

DOCTOR WHO What, of aquatic origin, you think?

MELANIE No, Doctor. Couldn't it be part of those impostors' scam?

DOCTOR WHO Skelloids are one thing. But the technology needed to

transmit a corpoelectric soundwave doesn't come cheap, even in this period. Unlikely to be within the reach of our friends up there. Satisfied now?

MELANIE Why do you always have the answer to everything?

DOCTOR WHO One of the advantages of being very old. Come on, the Council Chamber.²

FX - They hurry off, up the steps.

20. INT. CORRIDORS - DAY

POTIKOL and the GUARDS are carrying the fake TARDIS through the corridors up to the council chamber. FX - Much shuffling of feet, grunting and the occasional thud as the fake TARDIS hits a doorway.

POTIKOL Careful, you men... the Doctor's TARDIST must not be damaged... hurry... time is running out... *(ad lib similar in B/G as they move away)*

DOCTOR WHO and MEL see this happening and whisper, close mic.

MELANIE What's that they've got?

DOCTOR WHO *(Seething)* I can think of a number of terms for it, but for now let's just call it an insult. That is supposed to be the TARDIS

MELANIE But it's nothing like it. Looks more like a... well, a... Oh dear. I suppose some details always get garbled in legends.

DOCTOR WHO Don't try and placate me. Let's follow them.

21. INT. COUNCIL CHAMBER - DAY

BANTO and SALLY-ANNE are waiting for the TARDIST.

SALLY-ANNE I wish they'd hurry up with that thing. Don't see why we have to lug the teleporter round in that dirty great box.

BANTO ZAME All part of the illusion, my duck. Anyway, when it arrives we'll get inside and go and find our two competitors.

SALLY-ANNE Can I bash the girl?

BANTO ZAME Why?

SALLY-ANNE I saw you eyeing her up.

BANTO ZAME I did not! You imagined it.

SALLY-ANNE You were eating her up with those piggy little peepers of yours. Besides, she was really overdoing it with that 'Oh Doctor' business. I mean, when I do it, I'm subtle.

BANTO ZAME Very. Oh, here they come...

FX - POTIKOL and the GUARDS struggle to bring in the fake TARDIS.

POTIKOL Through here... mind the door... quickly...

FX - The fake TARDIS is laid to rest.

SALLY-ANNE Oh Doctor, it's good to see the TARDIST again. *(Sotto)* See, I'm subtle, ain't I?

BANTO ZAME Right. Well, Potikol, we'd better get started...

POTIKOL You'll need this list of our three greatest treasures and where to find them.

FX - Rustle of paper as the list is handed over

BANTO ZAME Oh yes.

POTIKOL Beware, Doctor. Although our world is civilised, not all the planets in the system are so welcoming. You must take great care.

BANTO ZAME I always do, Potikol. Right, Sally-Anne, into the TARDIST...

FX - DOCTOR WHO and MEL burst in. Gasps from those assembled.

DOCTOR WHO Not so fast Councillor, that man cannot protect you from your enemy because he is not the Doctor!⁵¹

POTIKOL Oh goodness - not these idiots again! Guards, throw them out onto the streets this time! I must go to the people and try to calm them! Good luck, Doctor - the future of Generios is in your hands, again."⁵²

FX - POTIKOL exits. The GUARDS approach DOCTOR WHO.

GUARD Right then you ..

BANTO ZAME It's all right, guards, I'll deal with these two Go.

GUARD Oh. Right you are then, sir. We'll wait outside.⁵³

FX - The GUARDS exit.

BANTO ZAME You've got some cheek. Very clever, the big voice, but it never fooled me

DOCTOR WHO Oh, did someone say something?⁵⁴ Oh yes, it must have been that impostor over there! Now you listen to me, I presume that contraction -

SALLY-ANNE The TARDIST

DOCTOR WHO The *what*? No, I heard you the first time. It's capable of short range teleport, yes?

BANTO ZAME What business is it of yours?⁵⁷

DOCTOR WHO Any time I see innocent people being exploited I make it my business. And this time, it's personal. I suppose you thought disguising your so called 'TARDIST' in that ridiculous manner was funny, eh?

BANTO ZAME Funny? There's nothing funny about that. It's accurate to the last detail

DOCTOR WHO Accurate? Hah! If you were even a semi competent con man, you'd realise that the TARDIS my TARDIS - has been in the shape of a Police Box for centuries.

SALLY-ANNE Tch! Everybody knows that!⁵⁸ We done our research That is a Police Box

MELANIE No it isn't That's a well, a (sighs) a portaloos⁵⁹

SALLY-ANNE Eh?

BANTO ZAME Listen, you We've seen the holo-records You can't catch us out Policemen were always hanging around these things

DOCTOR WHO You really are an imbecile, aren't you?

BANTO ZAME Listen, do I have to get nasty?

DOCTOR WHO I wouldn't advise it. I'm quite capable of defending myself.

BANTO ZAME (Louder) Oh *yes*?

DOCTOR WHO (Louder) Yes!⁶⁰

MELANIE (Yelling) Quiet! (Normal voice) Thank you. Listen, time's running out and all you two can do is indulge in a slanging match. That creature out there could kill us all!

SALLY-ANNE Come off it, love, we know that's part of you muscling in on our territory

MELANIE What? We've got nothing to do with that! It's a deadly threat to us all!

SALLY-ANNE Gawd Look, there's no one here but us now, so you can drop the goody twoshoes act.

MELANIE What act?

CYLINDER VOICE Generios! I would remind you all there are now only four point six three marlegs left to complete the task.

BANTO ZAME Listen to that – so unconvincing.

CYLINDER VOICE If any should doubt the seriousness of my intention, I shall now destroy the eleventh planet of this system!⁶¹

FX – A massive, long-lasting boom. From outside, the gathered crowd starts to panic and exclaim.

CYLINDER VOICE (CONT'D) Now fetch Tribute. Or the same fate will befall you.

BANTO ZAME (*A little unsure*) This is pathetic.

SALLY-ANNE Yeah, as if anyone's gonna believe that.

FX – A much closer sounding beam noise and explosion.

SALLY-ANNE (CONT'D) Flippin' 'Ada!

MELANIE Doctor!

DOCTOR WHO Get down!

BANTO ZAME What was that?

CYLINDER VOICE A further demonstration of my power

SALLY-ANNE It went right past my nose!

CYLINDER VOICE I demand Tribute! Do you need any more convincing?

SALLY-ANNE What was it?

MELANIE A high energy impulse beam?

DOCTOR WHO Top of the form, Mel. Directed straight at us. The creature must realise we're the only ones capable of doing its bidding.

SALLY-ANNE Banto – this is actually for real then?

BANTO ZAME For the first time, I've got the horrible feeling it might be.

SALLY-ANNE A bona fido alien invasion.

MELANIE Yes. How does it feel now the boot's on the other foot?

DOCTOR WHO No time for recriminations, Mel (*To BANTO*)

Unfortunately! We must get back to the TARDIS

BANTO ZAME (*Sotto*) They are mad.

SALLY-ANNE So what are we gonna do?

BANTO ZAME Get the first shuttle out of here, that's what.

SALLY-ANNE Everyone's gonna be trying that!

BANTO ZAME We'll bribe one of the pilots.

SALLY-ANNE What with?

BANTO ZAME You, if all else fails. Now quick – into the teleporter. Goodbye, you fruitcakes.

DOCTOR WHO Wait! I think you can give us a lift.

MELANIE In that thing?

DOCTOR WHO (*Pantedly*) Whatever it might look like, it's merely a disguised short-range teleporter.

BANTO ZAME Listen –

SALLY-ANNE Banto, come on!

BANTO ZAME One second, Sally-Anne. (*To DOCTOR WHO*) I don't know who you think you are, and I don't care. But I would rather pluck out my own eyes with a pair of rusty forceps than ever see you again.

SALLY-ANNE Come on, Banto!

DOCTOR WHO (*Whispers*) Right, Mel – you take him, I'll take her!

MELANIE Okay.

DOCTOR WHO Now!

FX – Much scuffling and ad lib shouts as DOCTOR WHO and MEL manhandle BANTO and SALLY-ANNE into the fake TARDIS.

BANTO ZAME Oof! Get her off me!

SALLY-ANNE 'Ere, leggo!

DOCTOR WHO This is what I believe is known as hitching a ride! Get them inside, Mel

FX - The fake TARDIS doors close. POTIKOL enters

POTIKOL Doctor, Doctor - please, you must hurry - the eleventh planet has been destroyed (surprised) oh They've gone inside.⁶²

FX - The fake TARDIS teleports away with a noise reminiscent of both the TARDIS we know and love and a flushing loo.

POTIKOL (CONT'D) Good luck, Doctor.

22. INT. TELEPORTER - DAY

FX An ambient hum. The four of them are packed in tight, hence some breathlessness and rustling of clothing as they move.

MELANIE Ow! This TARDIS feels smaller inside than outside.

BANTO ZAME You two've gone too far this time -

SALLY-ANNE Yeah, you can't push your way in here!

DOCTOR WHO (Brightly) We just did Ah, as I thought. This device could barely get us to the front gate, as it were.

MELANIE This must be the co-ordinate entry panel.

SALLY-ANNE It is, yeah, so get your mitts off it

BANTO ZAME Set the controls for the space docks, Sal.

FX - SALLY-ANNE obeys.

DOCTOR WHO I don't think you're going to find your getaway quite so easy as usual.

FX A grinding noise

SALLY-ANNE 'Ere, Banto the panel's stuck.

BANTO ZAME You knew that was going to happen.

MELANIE The Doctor's a past master at knowing what's about to happen.

DOCTOR WHO Do you think that object up there, whatever it is, will let anyone escape? Its powers are phenomenal. Fortunately, there is one journey I think it will be happy to make May I?

SALLY-ANNE Banto? Shall I let him?

BANTO ZAME Might as well

FX - DOCTOR WHO deftly manipulates the controls of the teleporter.

DOCTOR WHO Yes. I thought so...

FX - The capsule moves smoothly once more.

DOCTOR WHO (CONT'D) There we go. Theory proved.

MELANIE I take it we're heading straight into the jaws of deadly danger?

DOCTOR WHO Oh no. Not directly, anyway ..

SALLY-ANNE (Sotto) They're mentalists.

BANTO ZAME (Sotto) When we land... get ready to cosh them...⁶¹

23. INT. TARDIS CONTROL ROOM - DAY

FX - The fake TARDIS arrives in the control room and DOCTOR WHO and MEL step out.

MELANIE (With reservation) Well - I'm pleased to see the TARDIS the real TARDIS - again..

DOCTOR WHO But?

MELANIE But what?

DOCTOR WHO Miss Bush, I detect a certain reservation.

MELANIE That thing allowed us to come here, didn't it? It's using us like puppets on a string.

DOCTOR WHO I'm afraid so.

BANTO and SALLY ANNE emerge.

SALLY-ANNE Here, where's this? This ain't Genorios!

DOCTOR WHO This, my dear, is the TARDIS. The real thing.

SALLY-ANNE It's weird Gives me a warm feeling. Banto?

BANTO ZAME *(Slowly)* Oh dear. Oh dear. oh dear⁶⁴

SALLY-ANNE *(Sotto)* Shall I cosh 'em then?

BANTO ZAME Oh dear Oh dear.⁶⁵

SALLY-ANNE Whassup?

MELANIE I think your friend is beginning to realise we've been telling the truth.

BANTO ZAME This technology... I've never seen anything like it...

MELANIE Time Lord technology.

SALLY-ANNE You're not saying - they are the full ticket? But that means

MELANIE Exactly He *is* the Doctor.

DOCTOR WHO So, given that we've finally sorted out that little case of mistaken identity and established you as an impostor, a fraudster and a not-so-petty criminal, perhaps you could furnish us with a name to accompany that glowing CV, hmm?

BANTO ZAME *(Dazed)* Uh, Banto Zame.

MELANIE Where did you come by a name like that?

BANTO ZAME Osphogus.

DOCTOR WHO Osphogus? That's a superdense mudball, nothing could live there

BANTO ZAME They terraformed it five thousand years ago.

DOCTOR WHO Of course. Forgive me, I'm a little out of touch.

BANTO ZAME You actually are a Time Lord?

DOCTOR WHO Feel my chest. Two hearts

FX - He does so. A subtle 'thump thump' is heard.

BANTO ZAME By the Deities... it's true.

SALLY-ANNE Let me have a feel. *(Sexy)* Hmmm .. Flipping heck

DOCTOR WHO Both beating strong and true. Though perhaps a little faster than usual given the circumstances.

MELANIE Yes, we must get on with finding the Tribute.

BANTO ZAME Wouldn't it be more sensible just to use this marvellous machine to get away from here?

MELANIE We can't just abandon the people of Generos.

SALLY-ANNE Why not? We don't owe them nothing.

MELANIE Your research on the Doctor can't have been very thorough. He would never abandon anyone while there was a chance of saving them.

DOCTOR WHO Admirably put, Mel. Unlike some of us here, it seems, I have a particular aversion to system-wide genocide. Now - Banto Zame. I overheard the Councillor giving you a list the three Great Treasures. Where is it?

FX - BANTO rummages and hands the list over to MEL.

MELANIE I'll take that. So, we're going after the Tribute, then, Doctor?

DOCTOR WHO I don't see we have any choice. Now, Mel, where's the first treasure located?

MELANIE Let's see... the first one... on the eighth planet of the system.

DOCTOR WHO Then that's where we need to be.

FX - DOCTOR WHO programmes the co ordinates into the console.

BANTO ZAME Er, Doctor

DOCTOR WHO Yes?

BANTO ZAME We're still on Generics right now, aren't we?

DOCTOR WHO Are you about to ask me to open the door and let you out?

BANTO ZAME That's about the size of it, yes.

DOCTOR WHO Mel?

FX The TARDIS takes off.

DOCTOR WHO Oh dear how sad too late!

BANTO ZAME You did that on purpose!

DOCTOR WHO Time's running out With that Cylinder's forcefield in action I daren't attempt time travel. We've less than three hours left to us and Mel and I will need all the help we can get And besides - it's high time you two were taught a lesson

MELANIE Yes - about saving the very people you intended to defraud!

DOCTOR WHO (*Gently chiding*) It doesn't need spelling out, Mel.

MELANIE Oh. Sorry, Doctor.

DOCTOR WHO And, er - Sally-Anne, is it?

SALLY-ANNE Yeah?

DOCTOR WHO You can take your hands away now.⁶⁶

Music break passage of time

24. INT. CONSTRUCTION PLANET - NIGHT

A weird, echoey, empty metallic atmos - threat hangs in the very air. The TARDIS materialises and DOCTOR WHO and co step out.

MELANIE I don't like the look of this place. Just a lot of gloomy, empty corridors

SALLY-ANNE 'Ere, look Banto. That's what the TARDIST. . TARDIS really looks like Aren't those little windows sweet?

BANTO ZAME Mm We weren't *that* far off. Except the colour and -

DOCTOR WHO 'Not *that* far...' no.⁶⁷ No time for that now. What does the list say we're supposed to be looking for, Mel?

MELANIE It just says - Unit ZX419.

BANTO ZAME Did you say this was the eighth planet?

DOCTOR WHO Yes. Why?

BANTO ZAME I read up on the Generios System before we arrived There was something about the eighth planet .

DOCTOR WHO Yes? What?

BANTO ZAME Something about it being

SALLY-ANNE Being what?

BANTO ZAME Something Can't remember

MELANIE Something. Brilliant

DOCTOR WHO Well, was it something good or something bad?

BANTO ZAME No, it's gone.

MELANIE With our record, Doctor, it's bound to be bad.

DOCTOR WHO Not necessarily In fact, Mel, as time is rather against us...⁶⁸

MELANIE What?

DOCTOR WHO I think you and, er .. Sally-Anne should do the job here, while this 'gentleman' and I head for stop two.

SALLY-ANNE Here, you're not splitting us up!

BANTO ZAME What are you playing at? Wherever we go, we go together.⁶⁹

DOCTOR WHO There really isn't time to argue.

BANTO ZAME (*Slightly lusty*) Hang on, Doctor. What about - if you go with Sally Anne, and I go with Melanie?

MELANIE Do the ins and outs matter? Millions of people are relying on us. The important thing is to get on with the job in hand.

BANTO ZAME (*More lustfully*) Exactly.

DOCTOR WHO Right If I can take the rest of that list from you, Mel - (*FX: Paper ripping*) Then we're set Sally Anne and I will be back in one hour. Take care, won't you?

MELANIE You too, Doctor

FX: He enters the TARDIS.

SALLY-ANNE You watch it, Banto.

BANTO ZAME Watch what?

SALLY-ANNE I've seen your eyes, roving all over that ginger piece.

MELANIE Don't worry, Sally-Anne. I'm an expert at defending my honour (*Sotto*) I only hope the Doctor can say the same .

DOCTOR WHO (*From inside the TARDIS*) Come along, Sally-Anne!

SALLY-ANNE Bye, Banto. See yous in an hour.

SALLY-ANNE walks into the TARDIS. Door closes.

BANTO ZAME So, Melanie how did you pal up with the Doctor in the first place, then?⁷⁰

MELANIE It was quite interesting, actually. I was working as a computer programmer in Brighton when...

FX - The TARDIS dematerializes. BANTO is stunned.

BANTO ZAME Zerberak's Trousers! It really can travel through time?

MELANIE And space.

BANTO ZAME Yeah, but anyone can travel through space. Don't go boasting about that, people will think you're strange.⁷¹ So where is this 'Brighton' then?

MELANIE East Sussex Earth

BANTO ZAME Earth, eh? I once met a bloke from Earth, in a pub on Geddon I wonder if you know him. About five foot ten, called Martin something or other, brownish hair...

MELANIE Veto the reminiscences - let's concentrate on the job in hand. We've got to find Unit ZX419 Whatever it is.⁷²

FX - The noise of an ASSEMBLER passing in the distance

BANTO ZAME What was that?

MELANIE What was what?

BANTO ZAME I saw something just then - down there - out of the corner of my eye.

MELANIE Excellent. Signs of life This way then.

FX: Echoing footsteps as MEL moves off.

BANTO ZAME (*Resigned*) I expect you do this sort of thing all the time.

MELANIE (*Calling back*) I suppose I do, actually...

85. EXT. PLANET 14 - DAY

FX - A windswept, echoing quarry, with much thunder and lightning throughout this scene. The TARDIS materialises, and DOCTOR WHO and SALLY-ANNE emerge.

SALLY-ANNE Whoa. I could get used to this life.

DOCTOR WHO I doubt it. I never have. So here we are... the fourteenth planet of the Generios system

SALLY-ANNE Not much here is there?

DOCTOR WHO Don't be too sure of that. When you've travelled as far and wide as myself, you'll learn that even the most innocuous-looking places can have hidden depths (*sotto*) hidden depths with sharp teeth and large guns usually, but, well..

SALLY-ANNE But it's just a big empty quarry.

DOCTOR WHO Nevertheless, the list says this is the place... Generios 14, home of Mentos.

SALLY-ANNE What's Mentos?

DOCTOR WHO (*With good humour*) Another thing you'll have to learn about me. I never have all the answers.

FX - The distant call of the 'SUPERBRAIN' theme music. It sounds very very like the ridiculously overdramatic stings used on Who Wants To Be A Millionaire? or The Weakest Link - But from this distance it could almost be a clarion call.

SALLY-ANNE What was that?

DOCTOR WHO Didn't you just hear what I said? Whatever it was, it came from that run on the horizon⁷³

SALLY-ANNE There ain't no runs

DOCTOR WHO Wrong. That crag there... Look again.⁷⁴

SALLY-ANNE There isn't.. Blimey! You're right. It's like a big old cathedral

DOCTOR WHO Succinctly put

FX - The jingle is heard again.

SALLY-ANNE Perhaps Mentos is in there.

DOCTOR WHO My thoughts exactly Are you fit for a spot of hiking?

SALLY-ANNE Hold on. I can't go charging up there in these shoes.

DOCTOR WHO Well, I'll have to leave you then.

FX - A crash of thunder.

SALLY-ANNE No chance. Here, I'm freezing and all.

DOCTOR WHO Mm. It's not really leotard weather, is it? Take my coat.

FX - DOCTOR WHO shrugs off his jacket and SALLY-ANNE dons it.

SALLY-ANNE Ta. Hey, you're a nice big feller, aren't you?

DOCTOR WHO What?

SALLY-ANNE (*Coy*) I like a man with a bit of meat on him. Like a big teddy bear. Keep me all nice and cosy.

DOCTOR WHO Young lady, we are on a mission that could spell life or death for millions of innocent people. The comforts or otherwise of my figure are neither here nor there!

SALLY-ANNE Ooh, so we're playing hard to get, are we?

FX - The jingle, closer this time.

DOCTOR WHO (*Resigned*) Let's go and find this Mentos

FX - They start clambering over the rocky ground.

26. INT. CONSTRUCTION PLANET - DAY

MEL and BANTO have wandered in to another area - a huge storage section.

MELANIE I thought I heard a noise from here...

BANTO ZAME This room - it's huge.

MELANIE What are these things? Storage bays?

BANTO ZAME But what are they storing?

MELANIE Let's take a closer look. Help me get this down. . mind, it's heavy.

FX MEL and BANTO reach up and lift down an object.

BANTO ZAME It's a. . (surprised) chair. It's just a folding chair.

MELANIE There's a note attached to it 'Unit DR436. This light, attractive, interlocking, easy-to-assemble chair is the latest innovation from our top design computers. It combines comfort with the spinal support required by (starting to doubt) .. inferior human beings'. I don't like the sound of that. What else is there?

BANTO ZAME I'll get this down.

FX He does so.

BANTO ZAME (CONT'D) Oh, it's a lamp And quite pretty too. 'Unit EM670 This light, attractive, interlocking, easy-to-assemble anglepoise lighting feature is available in both burnt ochre and cerulean blue finish Whether you're working or just relaxing, it provides a reassuring glow to relieve the pointless and arbitrary existence of the human being'⁵

MELANIE I get it. This whole place is a massive furniture storage centre - a warehouse

BANTO ZAME (Quietly) Oh no.⁶

MELANIE And Unit ZX419, the First Great Treasure it must be somewhere on these shelves.

BANTO ZAME Oh no.

MELANIE With this coding system, it should be simplicity itself to find it.

BANTO ZAME Oh no.

MELANIE You go that way, I'll go... What is the matter with you?

BANTO ZAME I've just remembered. Or rather - your theory jogged my memory.

MELANIE (Getting it) You remember what you read in the guide book? So what did it say about this place?

BANTO ZAME Centuries ago this was a thriving planet. One particular company made furniture. It was incredibly successful - supplied the whole system, and far beyond.⁸

MELANIE And then?

BANTO ZAME The company execs decided to hand the whole operation over to their assembler robots They went berserk - and took over. Killed everybody The entire population of the planet.

MELANIE That's horrible!

BANTO ZAME I know.

MELANIE Go on.

BANTO ZAME Well that's it It's a dead planet. Nobody's set foot here from that day on. Until now.

MELANIE And when did all this happen?

BANTO ZAME Thousands of years ago.

MELANIE In which case there's no need to worry. The robots must have packed up by now. Let's find the Treasure, come on.

BANTO ZAME Melanie?

MELANIE What?

BANTO ZAME I'm scared

MELANIE Oh for goodness sakes... hold my hand.

BANTO ZAME (*Timid*) Thank you.

FX - They move off.

27. EXT. PLANET 14 - NIGHT

DOCTOR WHO and SALLY-ANNE have nearly reached the ruin. They are rather breathless from the climb. FX - We hear the jungle again, much more clearly.

DOCTOR WHO Almost there.

SALLY-ANNE God, my legs are killing me. Where do you get your energy?

DOCTOR WHO Plenty of vigorous exercise. A lot of running.

SALLY-ANNE Oh yeah like jogging and that?

DOCTOR WHO No Running away from things, in general

SALLY-ANNE Let me just get my breath..

DOCTOR WHO You certainly are a stark contrast to Mel. I'm usually the one lagging behind.

FX - The jungle, very close.

SALLY-ANNE There it goes again.

DOCTOR WHO And whatever's making it is in those ruins. Let's take a peek shall we ..? Look, there's a break in the wall, just here

FX - They bend down to look

SALLY-ANNE It's weird.

DOCTOR WHO Indeed... this must once have been an enormous amphitheatre.

SALLY-ANNE Amphi-what?™ 'Ere look! Something's moving in the middle - on the stage bit. .

DOCTOR WHO It looks like there's two of them

SALLY-ANNE Don't tell me you can see in the dark as well

DOCTOR WHO Plenty of carrot juice... let's climb inside, get nearer.

SALLY-ANNE If we have to. Give us a hand.

FX They clamber in. Tearing fabric.

SALLY-ANNE (*CONT'D*) Careful! You've ripped my skirt!

DOCTOR WHO Shhhh!⁸⁰

They slip over to the inside of the ruin.

DOCTOR WHO (*CONT'D*) Listen... they're talking to each other. .

We hear them. Faintly at first, but increasing in volume as SALLY-ANNE and DOCTOR WHO move closer. The QUESTIONER is a severe woman, with a clipped voice. A hint of Anne Robinson about her. MENTOS is a nervous-sounding, rather frustrated, old-ish man.

QUESTIONER Correct. Next round - politics. Who said, 'A yurnit of quince on Alpha Centauri is not worth a sproobel's mantivol on Monoceros?'

MENTOS Er. . was it. er, was it the Archifrage of Spass?

QUESTIONER Correct Geography. What is the capital of Ferazforon?

MENTOS Er. . is it Golostopherea?

QUESTIONER Correct At the end of that round, your Superbrain score stands at six hundred and sixty-seven billion, eight hundred and fifty-six million, nine hundred and eighty-seven thousand, one hundred and five credits.

FX - The jingle

DOCTOR WHO Incredible. I think it's some sort of game..

28. INT. CONSTRUCTION PLANET - DAY

MEL and BANTO are still creeping around the bays

MELANIE Here we are .. now that was storage bay ZW, so this must be storage bay ZX...

BANTO ZAME What was that?

MELANIE What?

BANTO ZAME I saw a shadow.

MELANIE Probably your own. I told you, there's probably nothing to worry about.

BANTO ZAME You like that word, don't you? Probably. There's *probably* nothing to worry about. That was *probably* just my shadow.

MELANIE There's no point in worrying until you know there's a problem.⁸¹

BANTO ZAME Ah so why are you whispering?

MELANIE (*Annoyed*) Because you are, I suppose. Give me my hand back, you're getting very clammy. Look - ZX! I was right. It must be right up there at the top. Lift me up.

FX BANTO lifts MEL up so she can reach.

BANTO ZAME All right. Hold still. There you are Oh no.

MELANIE Oh what is it now?

BANTO ZAME Oh no.

MELANIE Banto, what is it?

BANTO ZAME Oh no

FX - A brace of robotic ASSEMBLERS trundle in, antennae chittering. When they speak, it is clipped and mechanised - they sound a bit like the Smash robots.

MELANIE Normally I'd ask what they are. But I think I have a pretty good idea Sorry, Banto

ASSEMBLER 1 Humans have infiltrated the storage bays!

ASSEMBLER 2 Disassemble them! Disassemble them - *now!!!*

CRASH IN CLOSING THEME

END OF PART TWO

PART THREE⁸²

28. INT. CONSTRUCTION PLANET - DAY (RECAP)

MEL and BANTO are still creeping around the bays

MELANIE Here we are... now that was storage bay ZW, so this must be storage bay ZX..

BANTO ZAME What was that?

MELANIE What?

BANTO ZAME I saw a shadow.

MELANIE Probably your own. I told you, there's probably nothing to worry about.

BANTO ZAME You like that word, don't you? Probably. There's *probably* nothing to worry about. That was *probably* just my shadow.

MELANIE There's no point in worrying until you know there's a problem.⁸⁴

BANTO ZAME Ah so why are you whispering?

MELANIE (*Annayed*) Because you are, I suppose. Give me my hand back, you're getting very clammy. Look ZX! I was right. It must be right up there at the top. Lift me up.

FX - BANTO lifts MEL up so she can reach

BANTO ZAME All right. Hold still. There you are. Oh no.

MELANIE Oh what is it now?

BANTO ZAME Oh no.

MELANIE Banto, what is it?

BANTO ZAME Oh no.

FX - A brace of robotic ASSEMBLERS trundle in, antennae chittering. When they speak, it is clipped and mechanised - they sound a bit like the Smash robots.

MELANIE Normally I'd ask what they are. But I think I have a pretty good idea. Sorry, Banto.

ASSEMBLER 1 Humans have infiltrated the storage bays!

ASSEMBLER 2 Disassemble them! Disassemble them - *now!!!*

MELANIE No! Wait!

ASSEMBLER 2 We do not accept the orders of organics

MELANIE You can't kill us!

BANTO ZAME (*Praying*) I'm so sorry, Mother

MELANIE Banto let me down.

FX - MEL gets down.

BANTO ZAME I never meant to take that five nim note out of your purse.

ASSEMBLER 2 These organic spies must be disassembled.

BANTO ZAME ...I only needed it to...⁸⁴

MELANIE You've got to hear me out! We aren't spies!

ASSEMBLER 2 A typical organic untruth.

MELANIE We're working for the good of this planet - of the entire system. If we don't complete our mission here, you and all your kind will be destroyed for sure.

BANTO ZAME Forget it, Mel - you can't reason with those things!⁸⁵

ASSEMBLER 1 On the contrary, human - we Assemblers are creatures of pure reason.

ASSEMBLER 2 Indeed. Do not judge us by your own puny human standards.

MELANIE Sorry. But I'm serious. Back me up, Banto

BANTO ZAME (*Talking for his life*) Yes, your magnificences... metallic masters. . . If we don't get .. er, what is it. . ?

MELANIE Unit ZX419.

BANTO ZAME Unit XZ491...

MELANIE ZX419!⁸⁶

BANTO ZAME Unit ZX419 - there's a big nasty thing out in space that'll kill us all! Think what it'll do to all this lovely furniture ..⁸⁷

ASSEMBLER 1 Unit ZX419? Did you say Unit ZX419?

MELANIE Yes Several times

ASSEMBLER 1 That unit is our greatest achievement.

ASSEMBLER 2 A synthesis of our most brilliant designs - lovingly pincer-crafted

ASSEMBLER 1 It has taken nearly fifty million dekkons to produce.

BANTO ZAME Dekkons?

ASSEMBLER 1 A dekkon is equivalent to sixty of your -

MELANIE Oh no let's not get bogged down in all that again.

ASSEMBLER 1 There are no bogs on this planet

ASSEMBLER 2 I think the organic 'Mel' was making a feeble metaphor.

ASSEMBLER 1 So typical of the inefficiency of the human mind. (*To the humans*) Your story is clearly a ploy.

ASSEMBLER 2 You intend to trick us into parting with Unit ZX419.

ASSEMBLER 1 Our suspicion circuits are tingling.

ASSEMBLER 2 With suspicion.

MELANIE You've got to believe us. And quickly - time is of the essence

BANTO ZAME (*Despairing*) Oh, come on then! Disassemble us! At least it'll be quick and painless. I assume.

The ASSEMBLERS laugh.

BANTO ZAME (*CONT'D*) Oh dear.

ASSEMBLER 2 Prepare to meet your manufacturer, intruders!

FX - ASSEMBLER 2's pincers whirr into fearsome life.

MELANIE No - please! Every word we've said is true!

ASSEMBLER 1 Yes wait, 2.

ASSEMBLER 2 Wait, 1? Why must we wait?⁸⁸

ASSEMBLER 1 These humans wish to take Unit ZX419...

ASSEMBLER 2 (*Wary*) Yes?

ASSEMBLER 1 (*Sinister undertones*) Then perhaps we... should let them take it.

ASSEMBLER 2 What?

ASSEMBLER 1 Think about it.

ASSEMBLER 2 Eh? (*Catching on*) Oh Yes

The ASSEMBLERS laugh again

BANTO ZAME Phew That's all right then. (*Doubtful*) I think.

MELANIE Ever heard of jumping out of the frying pan?

BANTO ZAME No, actually

MELANIE (*Sighs*) I can see why the Doctor never comes to this end of time - it's like talking a different language. It's an expression - out of the frying pan and into the fire

BANTO ZAME What's a frying pan?
MELANIE You use it to fry food – on a hob...⁸⁹
ASSEMBLER 1 Enough talk of this foolish Earth 'pan'.
ASSEMBLER 2 Stand back and we will retrieve the unit you seek Stand back!
As ASSEMBLER 2's arms extend and reach up for the Unit we cut away to...

29. INT. AMPHITHEATRE - NIGHT

FX – We hear the jingle again. The quiz continues in B/G.

QUESTIONER What D was signed in the 49th reign of the Great Oceloth of Grunj?⁹⁰

MENTOS Er... um that'd be... the Dinarian Treaty.

QUESTIONER Correct. Who represented Venus in the 2059 Intergalactic Song Contest?

MENTOS Er... um I know this one..⁹¹

QUESTIONER I'll have to hurry you.

MENTOS Erm... was it X-Karumb'i click-chirrup-chirrup?

QUESTIONER Correct. And for an extra point, the full title of the song?

MENTOS Easy. T'lla-for-zeba-er-korrok. Brackets – baby.

QUESTIONER Correct

Over this, DOCTOR WHO and SALLY ANNE are conferring.

SALLY-ANNE This is mental.

DOCTOR WHO Perhaps the only relic of an entire civilisation

SALLY-ANNE If everybody's dead, perhaps they're ghosts.

DOCTOR WHO Ghosts? No. Not enough clanking chains and icy chills!

SALLY-ANNE (*Muttering*) Well I'm cold enough!

DOCTOR WHO Far more likely the products of advanced technology⁹²

Look at the contestant, Sally-Anne – closely

SALLY-ANNE The feller? No What?

DOCTOR WHO Look again

SALLY-ANNE No, I can't see nothing.

DOCTOR WHO (*Urging*) More closely

SALLY-ANNE Look, I can't see anything, so just tell me!

DOCTOR WHO (*Dryly*) I love an enquiring mind (*Sighs*) He's standing on a box To my eyes, that box looks very like a sophisticated computer

SALLY-ANNE How can you tell?

DOCTOR WHO Compare it to the rest of this place All in ruins – a toppled empire But that box is pristine Throbbing with energy.

SALLY-ANNE Yeah That's very clever of you to notice that.

DOCTOR WHO I am very clever.

SALLY-ANNE And very sexy.

DOCTOR WHO And very sexy... no, no, let's not start all that again.⁹⁴

Whatever it may be, that box has unique properties.⁹⁴ Ergo...?

SALLY-ANNE It's Mentos.

DOCTOR WHO You got there in the end.

SALLY-ANNE That box is Mentos! Great, let's go and get it! I'll sneak up behind the old bloke, you grab his arms, push him off and I'll nab the box!

DOCTOR WHO Steady on. We don't know the full situation – so we won't just blunder in⁹⁵

SALLY-ANNE (*Sulky*) Oh, all right. Whatever you say

DOCTOR WHO Allow me to demonstrate the correct etiquette for the space/time traveller.

DOCTOR WHO walks into the open.

DOCTOR WHO (*CONF'D*) (*Grandly*) Hello down there. I am known as the Doctor

QUESTIONER (*Breaking off*) Please, sir - we're on air. The audience are not permitted to leave their seats. If you want to use the lavatory please wait

DOCTOR WHO Ah, my mission is rather more urgent.

QUESTIONER We're in the middle of the show.

MENTOS Don't listen to her, old chap. I'm glad of a break. You know, I could have sworn the audience all died.

SALLY-ANNE Died?

DOCTOR WHO Exactly how long has this show of yours been running?

MENTOS I can answer that one. Thirty-three thousand years

QUESTIONER And we need to carry on, sir, madam, so please - return to your seats

SALLY-ANNE Hold on It's just Mentos we're after, not you two!

MENTOS But I am Mentos.

SALLY-ANNE Eh? But Doctor, you said...

DOCTOR WHO (*Interrupting, musing*) Yes, that would make sense. The Mentos device creates a real-world interface for itself. (*To Mentos*) So you're a projection?

MENTOS Top marks!

QUESTIONER Can we please stop these unauthorised questions? You're distracting the contestant

DOCTOR WHO I'm sorry, madam, but we require Mentos's aid urgently.

QUESTIONER You can have him as soon as I've finished with him at the end of the game.

SALLY-ANNE All right, then. Hurry up

DOCTOR WHO We'll just wait here.

MENTOS I don't think you understand, Doctor. I'm to remain here until I fail to answer a question.

DOCTOR WHO So?

MENTOS I'm the only contestant.

DOCTOR WHO I can see that.

MENTOS No - ever.

DOCTOR WHO What - you mean .. you've been here. .

MENTOS For three hundred and thirty centuries, yes. After all, I am Mentos I know *everything*.

30. INT. CONSTRUCTION PLANET - DAY

The ASSEMBLERS have fetched the unit from the rack.

ASSEMBLER 1 Behold, humans! Unit ZX419. The crowning glory of our race. Open the box, 2.

FX: ASSEMBLER 2's pincers whirr and the box rustles open. There is a sting of choral, almost holy music. A beat.

BANTO ZAME It's just a lot of wooden boards.

ASSEMBLER 2 Ptitful organic. The true elegance and functionality of the unit is clearly beyond its understanding.

ASSEMBLER 1 (*With meaning*) Precisely, 2.

ASSEMBLER 2 Ah yes. Of course, I.

They laugh once more.

BANTO ZAME (*Sotto*) Call me a pessimist, Mel, but I don't like the way this is going.

MELANIE Mm. They've obviously got something up their sleeves.

BANTO ZAME Yes, pincers. Big, fierce, razor-sharp metal pincers which ..

ASSEMBLER 1 Do not fear, human. Your disassemblage has been .. delayed.

BANTO ZAME Oh Good

MELANIE Don't think me ungrateful for the stay of execution, but why? Your friend over there was keen as mustard to kill us a few moments ago.

ASSEMBLER 1 You show interest in Unit ZX419. This... pleases us. But before you can take it - you must construct it.

MELANIE The instructions are attached to this bit. It looks simple enough. A straightforward shelving unit.⁹⁶

BANTO ZAME Shelves? How can a set of shelves be one of the three great treasures of the system?

ASSEMBLER 2 Do not blaspheme

ASSEMBLER 1 These shelves are like no others. Now - you have thirty dekkons to assemble unit ZX419. If you succeed you may leave with it. If you fail -

FX - ASSEMBLER 2's pincers whirr menacingly

ASSEMBLER 2 You will be disassembled!

MELANIE Sorry - thirty dekkons?

ASSEMBLER 2 Half of one pitiful human hour.

BANTO ZAME Better get cracking then.

ASSEMBLER 1 We shall withdraw and observe on our visiscope.⁹⁷

ASSEMBLER 2 We would not wish to... distract you.

ASSEMBLER 1 Remember thirty dekkons.

FX - The ASSEMBLERS withdraw, chirruping.

BANTO ZAME (*Sotto*) Mel, let's just leg it with the goods. This place is massive I'm sure we could find a good hiding place until .

FX - Immediately a set of four heavy metal shutters clang down around them. Close, echoing atmos from now on with appropriate noises as they construct the shelves

MELANIE They were hardly likely to have overlooked that. Right. (*Reading*) 'Insert Rod A into stanchion G while screwing nails B and D into aperture F as seen in Figs 1a and 5c'

BANTO ZAME Let's have a go.

MELANIE You hold this section.

BANTO ZAME That must be Rod A.⁹⁸

MELANIE That's stanchion G.⁹⁹ There we go, easy.

BANTO ZAME How are we going to screw the nails in without a screwdriver?

FX A shutter opens and a screwdriver is thrown in, clattering to the floor. The shutter clangs down again.

MELANIE Oh Thanks. Right, let's see. . 'Extend the nut on supports J and K...'

BANTO ZAME Righto Done that.

MELANIE Slide shelf 1 into aperture A... Hold on, what's happened? Did you touch that while I wasn't looking?

BANTO ZAME Touch what? I haven't touched a thing.
MELANIE Rod A - and stanchion G where are they?
BANTO ZAME Isn't that them?
MELANIE No
BANTO ZAME You had them in your hand a second ago. You must have put them down.
MELANIE But... I just... (*confused*) I don't get it. A moment ago..
BANTO ZAME I knew it was too good to be true. I bet they're having a right chuckle on that visiscope.
MELANIE It should be simple as long as we follow the instructions. Right. 'Insert dowels provided into pre-drilled holes on surface W as shown in Figs 51, 9 and 17D'
FX the sound of much paper unfolding.
BANTO ZAME Mel. Is it just me...
MELANIE What? I'm trying to concentrate.
BANTO ZAME Those instructions look as if they're getting bigger.
MELANIE Don't be ridiculous. Come on, help! (*Determined*) We're going to do this, Banto Together. Right then you take bracket F there...

31. INT. AMPHITHEATRE - NIGHT

The *QUESTIONER* has resumed her questioning. *MENTOS* has no choice but to continue

QUESTIONER What are the young of the Pontam race called?
MENTOS The... oh, it's on the tip of my mind... the Lethills?
QUESTIONER Correct
DOCTOR WHO Excuse me I don't know if I made myself clear...
QUESTIONER Please be quiet, sir.
DOCTOR WHO Madam, if I may just collect the Mentos device, I'll be out of your way...
QUESTIONER The questions must continue
DOCTOR WHO Here, let me disconnect the box...
FX - A blast of energy DOCTOR WHO is thrown back with a cry.
SALLY-ANNE Doctor! Doctor! (*To the QUESTIONER*) You've - killed him!
DOCTOR WHO (*Groaning*) No she hasn't Just an electric shock to the head (*To SALLY ANNE*) You know, you're getting the hang of this.
SALLY-ANNE (*Made up*) Thanks!
MENTOS I knew she wouldn't let you disconnect me, Doctor. Would it were that easy to leave this place..
QUESTIONER We must continue
SALLY-ANNE I get it. She's been programmed to carry on with the game, whatever.
MENTOS Correct
SALLY-ANNE And you've been programmed to answer her questions?
MENTOS More than that - I have been programmed to answer *any* question. The box you see beneath me is merely a portal.
DOCTOR WHO To a controlling intelligence?
MENTOS To a team of electronic research devices and intelligence gatherers suspended in a shadow universe. They work tirelessly to gather information on our own universe - to which I am merely the interface.
DOCTOR WHO (*Stunned*) That is - incredible
SALLY-ANNE I don't like it when you get flabbergasted ¹⁰⁰

DOCTOR WHO Flabbergasted? Too small a word for such a concept. One of the greatest advancements of technology ever...

MENTOS (*Modestly*) Thank you.

DOCTOR WHO The supreme achievement.. makes the Matrix of Gallifrey look like a Ladybird book..

MENTOS I say, you'll make me blush.

DOCTOR WHO But what happened to the civilisation that created you?

QUESTIONER Look around you.

DOCTOR WHO War?

MENTOS Two sides, ideologically opposed, wanted to get their hands on me.

DOCTOR WHO And wiped each other out? Leaving you stranded here?

MENTOS Yes. Coming on 'Superbrain' was a gimmick. A test run, if you like, to show off my abilities to the plebs. Unfortunately, until the correct code is released into the panel you see beneath me, I am irrevocably conditioned to answer questions. And before you ask, the only other people who knew the code were my designers, and they're long dead.¹⁰¹

QUESTIONER And I am programmed to select questions from throughout all time and space. Until Mentos is bested and the code released. Now, we must return to the game.

FX - The 'Superbrain' jingle. Questioner clears her throat.

QUESTIONER Who invented the Spode Catcher?

MENTOS Ah.. er. Finkum the Lesser

QUESTIONER What's the infinite cube root of the hypothetical number uninv?¹⁰²

MENTOS The hypothetical number uninv.. would it be the theoretical locus plyff?

DOCTOR WHO and SALLY-ANNE confer.

SALLY-ANNE Look, we can't just hang about all day hoping that brambox there is gonna slip up.

DOCTOR WHO You're right. We'll have to think of something. Some distraction...

SALLY-ANNE I'll just distract that cranky old bag and you run in and get the box?

DOCTOR WHO You saw what happened before. That was a nasty knock I took.

SALLY-ANNE So there's nothing we can do.

DOCTOR WHO Apparently not.

SALLY-ANNE We're finished. The whole system's finished

DOCTOR WHO Quite we're doomed, utterly doomed..⁰¹ Hold on, hold on⁰⁴ - as my companion, you're supposed to try and rouse me from my sloughs of despond. Not encourage them!

SALLY-ANNE I've always been a bit of a gloomy sort. (*Sighs*) What a life. Dad walked out when I was six. Mum hit the bottle. Brother knocked down by a speeding hover car. (*Getting teary*) Me poor auntie Sue gobbled up by one of the Spaags of Vishtek 3

DOCTOR WHO Oh dear

SALLY-ANNE Is it any wonder I turned to crime? I was led astray by Banto. He promised me the universe. And look where I end up.

DOCTOR WHO (*Awkward*) There, there. Have my hanky¹⁰⁵

SALLY-ANNE Ta. (*Blows nose*) Give us a cuddle, Doctor.

DOCTOR WHO Er... there you go..
SALLY-ANNE At least we'll go together when we go. You know, you've got a very comfortable shoulder.
DOCTOR WHO Wait a moment!
SALLY-ANNE What?
DOCTOR WHO I've had an ideal
SALLY-ANNE Is this the Time Lord way of giving a girl the brush-off?
DOCTOR WHO Questioner -
QUESTIONER Your interruptions are futile, Doctor.
DOCTOR WHO I don't think so. You say you are programmed to find a question Mentos cannot answer?
QUESTIONER (*Wary*) Yes.
DOCTOR WHO (*Proudly*) I think I have such a question. Will you allow me to put it to him?

32. INT. CONSTRUCTION PLANET - DAY

MEL and BANTO are still struggling with the shelves.

MELANIE 'Slot stanchion G into the base unit...' Hold on, I'm certain I've already done that..
BANTO ZAME That was stanchion D, and it wasn't the base unit, it was the central support stand.
MELANIE But where's that?
BANTO ZAME (*Puzzled*) Er .. I dunno..
MELANIE This is so complicated. The instructions seem to make sense, but we never seem to get any nearer actually putting it all together.
BANTO ZAME What does it say next, let's have a look... 'Balance lower shelf on support Y, then use Allen key provided to '
MELANIE Now hold on. We finished the lower shelves, I'm positive.
BANTO ZAME No, look.¹⁰⁶
MELANIE But I remember finishing that section.
BANTO ZAME Perhaps you're confused.
MELANIE No. I've got a memory like an elephant.¹⁰⁷ (*Chuckles*) A running gag I share with the Doctor.
BANTO ZAME I bet the hours just fly by.
MELANIE (*Working it out*) Yes, there's the section we finished... in which case, these parts here - must be new.¹⁰⁸
BANTO ZAME I'm not going to say 'but that's impossible' again.
MELANIE You know what this means, Banto?
BANTO ZAME (*Sarcastic*) Really good news?
MELANIE These shelves are a cheat. Parts of them keep appearing and disappearing.
BANTO ZAME Eh? We'd see it.
MELANIE Not if the maths involved was sufficiently developed. It would be beyond our senses to see it happening.
BANTO ZAME I'm sure this is all very clever, but you've lost me. It's just a lot of shelves (*Thinks*) Except - it's one of the three Great Treasures, so it must have special properties...
MELANIE Yes. The ability to slip in and out of different dimensions. That's why they let us try and do this. Don't you see?
BANTO ZAME We can never finish putting up the shelves because ..

MELANIE ...they're slipping in and out of our reality. We can never catch up

BANTO ZAME (*Gloomy*) That's it then.

FX - BANTO slumps down.

MELANIE What are you doing?

BANTO ZAME We've got about ten minutes before they come back in and finish us off. I'll be damned if I'm going to spend the last ten minutes of my life putting up shelves!

MELANIE You can't just lie there!

BANTO ZAME Exactly what do you think I should be doing instead?

MELANIE Listen. The last thing Melanie Jane Bush is going to do is give up.

BANTO ZAME It's hopeless, you said it yourself

FX - stirring music fades in slowly under MEL's speech.

MELANIE Listen. I used to live in a small town called Pease Pottage. Every year my mum and dad organised a Christmas show for local pensioners in the church hall. That year the snow fell eight feet deep. We lived in a big house about seven miles from the town. There was no way for us to drive in. Everybody else gave up. But not my mum and dad, and not me 'We're Bushes,' said my mum. 'And we're made of stronger stuff. Those old folk are relying on us' So we put on our wellies, jumpers and sou'westers, packed a steaming thermos, hoisted our bags and boxes of costumes and props, and we strode off into the deep snow, setting our faces against the biting wind. And though it was hard, and the road was long, we made it to that church hall, and we gave that show! So don't talk to me about giving up, because I'm a Bush, and Bushes never do.¹⁰⁹
There is a long pause.

ASSEMBLER 1 (*From outside*) We would remind the humans they have only twelve dekkons left to complete the task.¹¹⁰

MELANIE Oh. Yes, sorry. Got a bit carried away.

BANTO ZAME (*Sincere*) Mel - you're right.

MELANIE (*Surprised*) Am I?

BANTO ZAME (*Falling in love*) That was the most beautiful story I've ever heard.

MELANIE Was it?

BANTO ZAME You don't understand Where I come from nobody believes in anything. You really do.

MELANIE (*Awkward*) Thanks. Look, let's try and think of something ..

BANTO ZAME By the way - did the pensioners enjoy their show?

MELANIE No, none of them turned up.¹¹¹

SS. EXT. AMPHITHEATRE - NIGHT

FX - the 'Superbrain' jingle. DOCTOR WHO steps up to the QUESTIONER's podium.

QUESTIONER You are honoured, Doctor. The first audience member to question Mentos.

DOCTOR WHO Thank you, madam

SALLY-ANNE Go on, Doctor. You can do it.

DOCTOR WHO (*Clears throat*) Now Mentos?

MENTOS Yes?

DOCTOR WHO Let me get this straight. If I ask a question you cannot answer, you will be free, and I can take you with me?

MENTOS Yes.

DOCTOR WHO Right Now then.

QUESTIONER The rules allow you only two questions, Doctor.

DOCTOR WHO Very well. I doubt I'll need my second go

MENTOS Ooh, Doctor - you're not going to try one of those tricky fox-the-computer logic conundrums, are you? You know, 'if I'm lying was the last thing I said true' and all that nonsense?

DOCTOR WHO (*Covering*) Um... No.¹¹²

MENTOS Good Because I can answer those, you know?

DOCTOR WHO Really? Oh. (*Thinking quickly*) Very well. Here goes. What colour was the wallpaper in the back bedroom of number 35 Jefferson Road, Woking, in June 1975?

MENTOS Purple

DOCTOR WHO What?

MENTOS Purple. Easy. Next.

DOCTOR WHO How could you possibly...

MENTOS We sent a research device there to find out. You'll have to do better than that.¹¹³

DOCTOR WHO I can hardly believe it.

MENTOS I'm more interested to know how you know the answer.

DOCTOR WHO I based myself in Woking during a Cybermen invasion.¹¹⁴

MENTOS Oh, of course.

DOCTOR WHO So how come you didn't know *that*?

MENTOS Oh, I can't send requests for information, Doctor, I have to be asked.

SALLY-ANNE Fantastic. Try a harder one.

QUESTIONER Next question please, Doctor. Your second and final question.

DOCTOR WHO Erm .. try this one It's in three parts

QUESTIONER Tch. . I suppose it's allowed. .

DOCTOR WHO What were my three wishes as I blew out the candles on my nine hundredth birthday cake?

MENTOS Ah.. oh.. er...

DOCTOR WHO That's got you foxed

MENTOS Er wait a minute... it's a tough one...

DOCTOR WHO I'll have to hurry you.

QUESTIONER I say that.

DOCTOR WHO Sorry.

QUESTIONER I'll have to hurry you.

MENTOS Well, it's.. oh...

DOCTOR WHO Game, set and match to myself, I think. Questioner, if you'll allow me to disconnect the box?

SALLY-ANNE Well done, Doctor!

DOCTOR WHO (*Smug*) Mentos can see anywhere - but not, I think, into the mind of a Time Lord.

MENTOS Wait, I've got it. Wish one - peace throughout the galaxy.¹¹⁵

DOCTOR WHO I don't believe it... how?

MENTOS Wish two - er...

DOCTOR WHO Hah. A lucky guess. Come on ¹¹⁶

MENTOS Wish two - better control of the TARDIS...

SALLY-ANNE Is he right?

DOCTOR WHO (*Downcast*) Incredibly, yes. But don't fret, he'll never get the third one...

MENTOS Er oh, it's so nearly there

DOCTOR WHO Your time's running out, Mentos.

MENTOS Ah... oh. ah yes. Wish three - more manageable hair.

DOCTOR WHO (*Shocked*) Good grief! How did you know that?

MENTOS Easy really. Remember later that day you were locked in a dungeon by the evil Mantelli?¹⁷

DOCTOR WHO Yes

MENTOS Remember your cellmate?

DOCTOR WHO It was an old man, shackled to the wall Asked me what I'd been doing, and I... oh no. It was you!

MENTOS Another projection of me, yes. Very clever, those research devices. ¹⁸ Took me a while to get it out of you.

QUESTIONER (*Prim, mocking*) So, Doctor, you travel through space and time, yes?

DOCTOR WHO That's right.

QUESTIONER Meet a lot of interesting people do you?

DOCTOR WHO Well yes, I...

QUESTIONER Then it's a shame some of them couldn't have been here instead of you Please return to your seat You have been defeated by Mentos. You are the feeblest contestant Goodbye.

FX - We hear the jingle as DOCTOR WHO does the walk of shame He sighs

DOCTOR WHO It's impossible We're fighting the greatest resource of information the universe has ever known - even my mind is no match We'd have more chance of beating a squad of Daleks with a rolled up newspaper.

SALLY-ANNE Oh, come on. Here, let me have a go.¹¹⁹ O! Questioner!¹²⁰

DOCTOR WHO If you like. Though I don't think it'll do any good. I suppose you could ask him -

QUESTIONER No conferring

SALLY-ANNE I've got a good question worked out Don't worry, Doctor.

DOCTOR WHO *makes a despairing sound.*¹²¹

QUESTIONER Sally-Anne Stubbins - will you please come up to the hot spot?

FX - We hear the jingle as SALLY-ANNE walks up.

QUESTIONER Sally Anne, you have two questions

DOCTOR WHO (*To himself over the above*) Wait I've got it, I know what to ask .. How could I have been so stupid ¹²²

SALLY-ANNE Right. What did I tell Banto on the night when he asked me to marry him, just after we'd downed that third bottle of red. (*To DOCTOR WHO*) He'll never get this one, cos Banto's never told another living soul He promised

MENTOS You... er. Oh, what was it? Yes, of course. You told him you'd had... I hardly like to say it.

QUESTIONER Your answer please, Mentos.

MENTOS Well, that you'd had .. uh . mammary enhancement surgery. He was out for a drink the following evening, you see. Told all his friends. One of my gatherers was there. Apparently he thought you'd also had your cheeks sucked in and your lips -

SALLY-ANNE (*Interrupting, furious*) The scumbag! I'll get him for that!

QUESTIONER One question left.

SALLY-ANNE Oh, flippin' 'eck. It's impossible. (*Gabbling, not actually asking a question*) I mean, what *don't* you know?

MENTOS Er...

QUESTIONER Is that your second question?

SALLY-ANNE No, hang on ¹²⁴

DOCTOR WHO Yes! Yes, that's her second question! Mentos – what *don't* you know?

MENTOS Er . I'm sure I'll have the answer soon... it's going to be a bit tricky... ¹⁴⁴ er... ¹²⁵

SALLY-ANNE What have I done?

DOCTOR WHO Pulled the cat out of the bag is what you've done! Great minds do think alike after all. ²⁵ Come here!

DOCTOR WHO *grabs her and gives her a quick, exuberant kiss on the cheek.*

SALLY-ANNE Coh, Doctor. ¹²⁵

FX – *Odd, whirring sounds, fizzing and sparks begin to come from Mentos*

MENTOS Wait, please, I... ¹²⁵ I'm sending my research devices... ¹²⁵ I... er . what is happening? ¹²⁵ Mentos overloaded... ¹²⁵ cannot answer... ¹²⁵ (*sturring*) . . . portal closing down... ¹²⁶ code released...

QUESTIONER Mentos, that is the end of your time here on Superbrain. Do you want to come back next week?

MENTOS Certainly not! I am – closing down... closing down...

FX – *A whispering, sucking sound as MENTOS vanishes into the portal.*

SALLY-ANNE He's disappeared!

DOCTOR WHO Merely retreated into his shell. Good. I hate clever clogs.

QUESTIONER You have banked a pitiful six hundred and seventy-nine billion, three hundred and thirty-three million, five hundred and sixty-seven thousand, and ten credits. ¹²⁷ Goodbye Goodbye. Goodbye .

FX – *The QUESTIONER, too, dies. Her body clatters to the floor with metallic-sounding clang.*

SALLY-ANNE What happened to her?

DOCTOR WHO Game over. No need for a questioner any longer. Now come on – let's disconnect the box and get back to the others. ²⁸

54. INT. CONSTRUCTION PLANET CELL – DAY

We hear the voice of ASSEMBLER 1 on the intercom.

ASSEMBLER 1 Two dekkons remaining, human weaklings.

BANTO ZAME Two minutes! Two minutes of life. What can you do with two minutes?

MELANIE Quiet, will you. I'm trying to think.

BANTO ZAME It's amazing. You don't seem scared at all.

MELANIE No point in it. Believe me, when I'm scared I'll scream the paint off the walls.

BANTO ZAME Mel...

MELANIE Yes?

BANTO ZAME Can I hold your hand?

MELANIE If it makes you feel better.

BANTO ZAME Thanks. It does. You know, in another time, another place... I might've set my cap at you.

MELANIE (*Gently sarcastic*) Thanks. Perhaps in another dimension we got together and had tons of odd-looking children... hang on!

BANTO ZAME What?

MELANIE I think I've got it!

BANTO ZAME Got what?

MELANIE A way out! These shelves can never be fully assembled, yes?

BANTO ZAME If you say so

MELANIE So those robot things out there can't have ever seen the finished unit

BANTO ZAME (*Still unconvinced*) Makes sense, I s'pose...

MELANIE Then how will they know whether we've put it together correctly? We've done all we can, so let's just gather up the rest of the pieces (*she does so while talking*) - the ones currently in our dimension, anyway - and pile them on top!

BANTO ZAME That'll never work! There must be a picture of the end product somewhere on these instructions...

FX: Rustling as BANTO looks through the instructions.

BANTO ZAME Hey! Hey you're right! You can't even get to the end of the instructions. There's always more... oh this is doing my brain no good at all!

MELANIE Never mind that! Quick, help me with all this.

FX: Clattering as they pile up all the pieces they can find. They are stopped as the shutters slide up and the ASSEMBLERS trundle in, chattering.

ASSEMBLER 2 Your thirty dekkons are up, Earth creatures.

MELANIE (*Bluffing*) And a very fine job we've done, I'm sure you'll agree

ASSEMBLER 2 Prepare your internal organs for .. whaaaat?

ASSEMBLER 1 What did you say?

MELANIE Unit ZX419. We assembled it. Look

BANTO ZAME (*Whispering*) They aren't going to fall for this, surely?

MELANIE (*To BANTO*) Play along (*To the ASSEMBLERS*) It wasn't all that difficult once we got the hang of it.

BANTO ZAME Yes... you tried to fool us, you naughty robots. But we soon saw through it

MELANIE So if you don't mind we'll be on our way.

ASSEMBLER 1 Wait! You cannot have assembled Unit ZX419!

MELANIE Why not? They're only shelves.

ASSEMBLER 2 Very special shelves Our finest achievement - the Shelves of Infinity!

MELANIE Oh, you mean the dimensional trickery Didn't take us long to work that out. Did it Banto?

BANTO ZAME Yeah, we're dab hands when it comes to, er..

MELANIE Multi-reality cogency phasing It's simple you just train your mind to think in the abstract and you can see thirty seven dimensions all at the same time.

The ASSEMBLERS confer.

ASSEMBLER 1 Can this be possible?

ASSEMBLER 2 We must examine the Shelves of Infinity.

MELANIE Feel free. You see - finished.

ASSEMBLER 2 This is an organic untruth!

MELANIE Of course it isn't. Look, check on the instructions
FX MEL hands ASSEMBLER 2 the instructions.

ASSEMBLER 2 Let me see. . stanchion G is supported by rod 6... the interlocking nuts 9b and 4a have been tightened, yes...

ASSEMBLER 1 It will take us some time to check the truth of your claim.

BANTO ZAME That wasn't part of the deal. Thirty dekkons you said.

MELANIE Surely it won't take the Great Assemblers that long to examine their own shelves?

ASSEMBLER 1 Of course not!

ASSEMBLER 2 We are superior!

MELANIE Well then. (*Under her breath*) Come on, Doctor!

BANTO ZAME You're not trying to back out of the deal, are you? Tsk, tsk.¹²⁹ And I thought you were honourable creatures.

ASSEMBLER 2 We are beings of our word - unlike humans.

MELANIE Let's have the shelves then.
FX - The ASSEMBLERS are making confused sounding noises. MEL lifts the shelves.

ASSEMBLER 2 There is conflict in my circuits, 1.

ASSEMBLER 1 And in mine, 2.

ASSEMBLER 2 We are superior to humans.

ASSEMBLER 1 Undoubtedly.

ASSEMBLER 2 Then how can the humans have completed their task?¹³⁰

ASSEMBLER 1 We must examine these instructions closely, 2
FX - PAPER RUSTLING, OVER WHICH the TARDIS materialises.

MELANIE Right on time for once! Come on Banto, help me with the shelves!
FX They grab the shelves and dash to the TARDIS. The shelves clatter as they run, perhaps interlocking nut 9a tinkles to the floor.

BANTO ZAME I'm right behind you!

ASSEMBLER 1 What is this blue cuboid object with windows and writing on the door? 'Pull to open...' Are these its instructions?

MELANIE (*Calling back*) It's something we made earlier.

BANTO ZAME Goodbye, creeps!
FX - MEL and BANTO dash into the TARDIS and slam the door. The ASSEMBLERS approach the TARDIS.

ASSEMBLER 1 Emerge from this cuboid!

ASSEMBLER 2 Bring back the Shelves of Infinity!

ASSEMBLER 1 We must disassemble this box, 2

ASSEMBLER 2 Yes, 1 Advance, advance!

ASSEMBLER 1 Disassemble, disassemble!
FX - Their pincers whirr up. But the TARDIS is already dematerialising.

ASSEMBLER 2 You will return!

ASSEMBLER 1 We are superior! We are superior!
FX - The wheezing, groaning sound dies away. A beat.

ASSEMBLER 2 We have been beaten by humans, 1.

ASSEMBLER 1 Yes, 2. It is not possible.

ASSEMBLER 2 Thus - it cannot have happened.

ASSEMBLER 1 We shall erase it from our memories.

ASSEMBLER 2 Erase! Erase!¹³¹

ASSEMBLER 1 That is better

ASSEMBLER 2 Now let us go and assemble a new design. How about - a sun lounger and chairs in matching lavender?

ASSEMBLER 1 Or footstools and occasional table with accompanying pouffe?¹³

ASSEMBLER 2 I know we shall assemble both

FX - Exit the ASSEMBLERS, chattering happily

35. INT. TARDIS CONTROL ROOM - DAY

FX - The TARDIS is in flight. MEL and BANTO put down the shelves

DOCTOR WHO Mel, it's very good to see you I only hope your excursion was less fraught with peril than mine and Sally-Anne's

MELANIE I'd rather not dwell on the detail, Doctor Suffice it to say, I hope these were worth it.

DOCTOR WHO Forgive me but they do rather resemble shelves.

MELANIE They are shelves Special shelves (*Sceptical*) What about your treasure? It's just a box

SALLY-ANNE A very special box, actually

BANTO ZAME Before we all get carried away with the explanations

DOCTOR WHO Yes?

BANTO ZAME there's still another treasure to find

MELANIE He's right, and we've only got about twenty-five minutes left!

BANTO ZAME (*Weary*) My life seems to lurch from one countdown to another.

DOCTOR WHO Hah! Can't take the pace, eh? That'll teach you to imitate somebody less awe-inspiring next time!

BANTO ZAME Awe-inspiring? In that coat? Have you looked in the mirror recently? Come to think of it, I shouldn't think you do much else..

DOCTOR WHO I intend to rise above your barbs (*Pause*) But before I do, I'd like to say that this coat can only be appreciated by someone with a sharpened aesthetic sense - not a dunderhead like you!

BANTO ZAME Sharpened aesthetic sense? Sharpened by what - a dose of mind altering drugs?

DOCTOR WHO I warn you - a verbal duel against me, as you should remember, if you used the smallest fraction of your cerebral cortex occasionally, can only end in ignominy for you.¹³

BANTO ZAME Igno what? Talking to you is like arguing with a thesaurus!

DOCTOR WHO It pays to enrich your word power!

MELANIE Doctor, Banto! Please!

DOCTOR WHO I'm sorry, Mel. (*Pause*) But he started it.

BANTO ZAME I did not! You did!¹⁴

SALLY-ANNE Shut up!

MELANIE Can we please get on with finding the treasure?

DOCTOR WHO Already covered In fact we're just about to materialise.

SALLY-ANNE/MELANIE Where, Doctor?¹⁵

MELANIE I ask that question.

SALLY-ANNE Suit yourself.

MELANIE Where, Doctor?

DOCTOR WHO The innermost planet of the system Generics 15. It's a gigantic body composed almost entirely of superheated gas.

BANTO ZAME Rather like you, then.

DOCTOR WHO If I have to endure another insult -

BANTO ZAME Oh here we go, another voyage round the English language

MELANIE (Yelling) Quiet!

36. EXT. GAS PLANET - DAY

FX - A whispering, bubbling, creepy atmosphere. The TARDIS materialises DOCTOR WHO et al step out.

MELANIE I don't like the look of this place.

BANTO ZAME Too red for my liking. Red always spells danger.

DOCTOR WHO We're not here to discuss the colour scheme. Look around, all of you. According to the list, we should be right on top of the Third Treasure.

FX - Footsteps as they begin to move off.

SALLY-ANNE 'Ere, you don't reckon it could be the planet itself, do you?

DOCTOR WHO (Impressed) Good thinking, Sally-Anne. But no - I did a quick analysis in the TARDIS, and there's nothing uncommon in its composition.

MELANIE It wasn't that clever a suggestion.¹³⁶

DOCTOR WHO Do I detect a hint of envy, Mel?

BANTO ZAME (Calling back) Hey - what's that over there? It's a... oh my stars. . look at the size of it!

MELANIE It's enormous

DOCTOR WHO What a beauty.

SALLY-ANNE I've never seen one as big as that before!

DOCTOR WHO It must take the particular geological extremes at work here to produce a diamond that size¹³⁷

SALLY-ANNE That's the Treasure then.

DOCTOR WHO Just lying here.

BANTO ZAME Let's get it and go, shall we then?

MELANIE Hold on No one's going to leave something as valuable as that lying out in the open and unguarded.¹³⁸

DOCTOR WHO Extra Brownie points for Mel. Or should that be Girl Guide points?

MELANIE (Laughing) Thank you.

DOCTOR WHO So - I shall approach with caution. Stand back, the rest of you.

FX - DOCTOR WHO walks towards the diamond.

SALLY-ANNE Ooh, he's so brave.

BANTO ZAME The word I'd choose is 'stupid'.

SALLY-ANNE I wish I had a feller like that - not a coward like the one I'm stuck with.

BANTO ZAME As if he'd look twice you, my little gargoyle.

SALLY-ANNE You what?

BANTO ZAME He's hardly going to throw over a lovely girl like Melanie, is he?

MELANIE Stop squabbling. The Doctor's reached the diamond...¹³⁹

DOCTOR WHO (Calling) It appears to be stuck

MELANIE Give it a tug!

DOCTOR WHO I am! It won't budge!

SALLY ANNE screams

MELANIE What is it?

SALLY-ANNE Over there – look!

BANTO ZAME Oh no.

MELANIE Doctor – behind you! Doctor!

SALLY-ANNE It's like an horrible big... jelly!

FX – DOCTOR WHO is grabbed.

DOCTOR WHO Oh – aargh!

FX – With much slobbering, DOCTOR WHO is eaten by the JELLOID.

SALLY-ANNE It's gobbled him up!

MELANIE No! Doctor!¹⁴⁰

BANTO ZAME Face it, Mel – he's lunch. .

FX – The JELLOID burps, contentedly.

CRASH IN CLOSING THEME¹⁴¹

END OF PART THREE

PART FOUR

36. EXT. GAS PLANET – DAY (RECAP)

MELANIE The Doctor's reached the diamond...

DOCTOR WHO (*Calling*) It appears to be stuck!

MELANIE Give it a tug!

DOCTOR WHO I am! It won't budge!

SALLY-ANNE screams.

MELANIE What is it?

SALLY-ANNE Over there look!

BANTO ZAME Oh no.

MELANIE Doctor – behind you! Doctor!

SALLY-ANNE It's like an horrible big... jelly!

FX – DOCTOR WHO is grabbed.

DOCTOR WHO Oh – aarggh!

FX – With much slobbering, DOCTOR WHO is eaten by the JELLOID

SALLY-ANNE It's gobbled him up!

MELANIE No! Doctor!¹⁴²

BANTO ZAME Face it, Mel - he's lunch

FX – The JELLOID burps, contentedly.

MELANIE (*Distraught*) Doctor.. no, he can't be...¹⁴²

SALLY-ANNE He was so.. brave, and so... sexy...

FX - The JELLOID slithers away.

BANTO ZAME It's slithering off – back to its lair for a post-prandial kip.

MELANIE No. The Doctor's faced more formidable enemies than a blob of jelly He'll find a way out, I know he will.¹⁴²

BANTO ZAME What did you have for breakfast this morning?

MELANIE Muesli – why?

BANTO ZAME Has your muesli found its way out?

MELANIE Oh, Doctor...¹⁴³

37. INT. JELLOID STOMACH – DAY

FX – A bubbling, organic atmos – gastric.

DOCTOR WHO (*Woozy*) Oh my head... where am I? Oh dear... now I know what an endoscope feels like... What's this stuff on my coat? Urgh.. digestive fluids.. Now then, don't fret, Doctor – what goes down can be made to come up. Lucky it didn't have teeth. Let's see. . that must be the intestinal tract .. if I just follow this round... ah yes. . if I poke my finger – just about here...

FX – A gushing noise. DOCTOR WHO splutters

DOCTOR WHO (*CONT'D*) Urgh – no! Why are your bile ducts in such a silly place? Try again...

FX – The JELLOID squelches and groans

DOCTOR WHO (*CONT'D*) That's better... for me, if not for you, old chap..

38. EXT. GAS PLANET – DAY

MELANIE (Tearful) I still can't believe the Doctor's dead. It's hard to swallow I mean - difficult to stomach. Oh..

SALLY-ANNE How are we going to get off this dump without him?

BANTO ZAME Good point. Mel, can you fly the TARDIST . I mean, TARDIS?

MELANIE I suppose I could just about get us off here and back to Generos. Don't forget, the Cylinder won't let us go anywhere else

SALLY-ANNE We'll never get the diamond. I'm not tackling that jelly.

FX - The JELLOID is rolling back.

BANTO ZAME You might have to here it is again!

FX - We can hear the JELLOID is having a bad attack of the collywobbles

MELANIE It doesn't look very comfortable (Venomous) Hope it choked on the Doctor!

BANTO ZAME It's coming towards us!

SALLY-ANNE Quick, let's get in the TARDIST!

FX - The JELLOID belches violently.

MELANIE Something's very wrong...

FX The JELLOID sickens up DOCTOR WHO, who goes flying through the air to land at their feet in a sticky mucus covered heap.

DOCTOR WHO Ooof!

MELANIE (Overjoyed) Doctor!

SALLY-ANNE I'd give you an hug but ..

BANTO ZAME He's covered in slime.

DOCTOR WHO Gastric juices - all very healthy and natural.

BANTO ZAME And smelly. Still, lucky you're wearing that coat. No way of telling that someone's just been sick all over it.

MELANIE The jelly it's a quivering heap.

SALLY-ANNE It looks all guilty. So it should, swallowing our mate.

DOCTOR WHO It found me difficult to stomach.

MELANIE (Laughing) I've already used that gag, Doctor. Oh, it's good to have you back

BANTO ZAME Quick - while it's kaylyed, grab the diamond!'''

The JELLOID speaks in a slow, deep, wibbling voice. It has a slight Northern accent for some reason.

JELLOID (Groaning) No stop. .

SALLY-ANNE Flippin 'eck, it talks!

JELLOID Of course I talk. I'm not stupid, you know.

MELANIE How dare you swallow the Doctor!

DOCTOR WHO Steady on, Mel. I'll handle this. (Clears throat) How dare you swallow me!

JELLOID You tried to steal the Great Jewel.

DOCTOR WHO It would have been more polite simply to ask me not to.

JELLOID Forgive me - I've been alone for many years. I'm bad with people.

MELANIE What kind of creature are you?

JELLOID A Jelloid. I am the guardian of the Jewel. It was hidden here and I was put on guard. Must be - ooh, thirty million odd years ago...¹⁴⁵

MELANIE Thirty million years? (Laughs) You're looking good on it. What's your secret?

JELLOID I'm a single cell organism. From a distinguished family of single cell organisms

DOCTOR WHO Not the Spraxis Jellioids? From the binary quasar Bendalos?

JELLOID It's always nice to be recognised.

BANTO ZAME Oh, right, I suppose we're going to get the lecture now - 'my exciting adventure with the Jellioids' Least I never made *my* Doctor such a pompous bore...

SALLY-ANNE Shut it You know this lot then Doctor?

DOCTOR WHO The Spraxis Jellioids are the longest-lived race in the cosmos. Some biologists postulated they were the first living beings and here they are far in the future. That's staying power for you.¹⁴⁶

SALLY-ANNE So he's been guarding the diamond all this time? Sort of like the Questioner was guarding Mentos for all them years?

MELANIE Or those horrid Assemblers guarding the Shelves of Infinity

DOCTOR WHO Exactly Every great treasure needs its guardian - and the longer-lasting, the better. You can't leave powerful artefacts just lying around. . as was ably proven when this fine gentlebeing ate me.¹⁴⁷ No, everything balances out in the end. That's the beauty of the universe.

SALLY-ANNE Aww. That's really poetic, Doctor.

BANTO ZAME I think I'm going to be sick now.

DOCTOR WHO So - you've been here all this time?

JELLOID You're quite right, Doctor. My employers wanted somebody with staying power.¹⁴⁸ (*Bitterly*) Thirty million years .¹⁴⁹ You don't know what it's like... nobody to talk to... pass the time of day with... I sit and talk to myself... it's a lonely life... would you like to hear the song I've made up about it?

DOCTOR WHO Kind of you, but not just at the moment. Now - I need the Jewel for the best of reasons. An alien intruder will destroy this entire system if I don't hand it over.

JELLOID Really?

DOCTOR WHO Yes.

JELLOID I suppose you'd better take it then.

BANTO ZAME What - you've just accepted that nonsense story?

JELLOID Well - the Doctor has an honest face.

BANTO ZAME Oh for Pete's sake...

JELLOID And it's part of my job to monitor the system - I've heard that Cylinder mouthing off Cheeky blighter.

SALLY-ANNE Let's collect the diamond and get out of here. I'll help you lift it, Doctor.

MELANIE I'll help him, thank you

JELLOID No point You'll never get it up - it's held down by a force field

BANTO ZAME Switch it off then.

JELLOID Well, I would...

DOCTOR WHO But?

BANTO ZAME I knew it was too good be true.

JELLOID I have to switch the field off - and the control's over that mound.¹⁵⁰

SALLY-ANNE Go on then, what's stopping you?

JELLOID See that teleporter pad over there? My only link to the universe outside. I'm having an entertainment system delivered from Bendalos. Something to pass the time. It'll give me access to music,

movies, sport, games and all the long-running programmes on Jelloid TV. So this brochure says.

FX - He rustles the brochure.

MELANIE What's that to do with anything?

JELLOID Well, they sent me a card saying they'll be delivering it about now.

MELANIE Well.. when?

JELLOID They can only specify within a range of two million years.¹⁵¹

MELANIE What?

JELLOID I've already waited one and a half million. They could turn up at any moment. And I don't want to miss them.

DOCTOR WHO I don't believe this!

BANTO ZAME (*Smug*) Everything is relative, Doctor

JELLOID It makes me very nervous, waiting in like this. I just know - if I go and switch the field off - they'll appear and I'll have missed them. Then I'll have to call the depot and arrange another delivery date do the whole thing again. And it takes you ages to get through - forty thousand years they put me on hold.

DOCTOR WHO But surely you can see our mission is vitally important?¹⁵² How long will it take you to switch the field off and come back?

JELLOID About ten minutes.

DOCTOR Well then. The chances of your goods arriving in that period are infinitesimal.

JELLOID Ooh .. I just know they will though ..

SALLY-ANNE They won't.

JELLOID I bet they will. You go out and they turn up. It always happens.

SALLY-ANNE Look - we're here. We promise if they do show up we'll make them wait until you come back.¹⁵³

JELLOID Hmm . Well

SALLY-ANNE Honest

JELLOID Oh all right. But keep a sharp eye out for them.

FX - The JELLOID rolls away

DOCTOR WHO Well done, Sally-Anne. That was very well handled.

SALLY-ANNE I'm getting the hang of it, ain't I?

DOCTOR WHO You certainly are.¹⁵⁴

MELANIE (*Jealous*) Let's save the congratulations until the job's done, shall we?¹⁵⁵

30. INT. COUNCIL CHAMBER - DAY

FX We can just hear the crowd nervously chattering outside the Great Council Complex. The door opens and the GUARD enters.

GUARD Councillor Potikol?

POTIKOL (*Nervous*) Yes, guard? What is it - is the Doctor back?

GUARD The Cylinder... it's coming down. Hovering right over the Complex.¹⁵⁶

POTIKOL Oh no. How long have we got left?

CYLINDER VOICE Fifteen minutes! You have fifteen minutes to bring me the Tribute - or you will be obliterated!

POTIKOL Please – oh please, Great Cylinder, spare us!¹⁵⁷
GUARD I don't think it can hear you up there, sir.¹⁵⁸
POTIKOL The Doctor saved us once I know he can do it again.
GUARD Shall I change your damp flannel, Councillor?
POTIKOL Yes please.
CYLINDER VOICE Fourteen minutes remaining... fourteen minutes remaining .. I demand Tribute!¹⁵⁹

40. EXT. GAS PLANET – DAY

MELANIE Doctor. Time's running out.¹⁶⁰
DOCTOR WHO I know. What say you go into the TARDIS and power up the systems? Then when it's time we'll grab the diamond and vamoose.
MELANIE Vamoose?
DOCTOR WHO Leave. In a hurry.
MELANIE Oh Doctor Your vocabulary.
DOCTOR WHO Don't you start. I'll have you know Roget was a very good friend of mine.

FX - What sounds like a fly buzzing by.

MELANIE What's that?
DOCTOR WHO Just a harmless local insect, it won't hurt you. Probably. Odd for this climate. Never mind, hurry along to the TARDIS.

FX - The fly buzzes off. MEL moves off to the TARDIS. We cross to BANTO and SALLY ANNE.

SALLY-ANNE Flippin Nora
BANTO ZAME What now?
SALLY-ANNE Stuck here, roasting my skin off on some... gas planet.

FX - The fly buzzes by again.

SALLY-ANNE (CONT'D) And now I'm being divebombed by a great big fly – buzz off (She shoos it away)¹⁶¹ All started after I took up with you
BANTO ZAME What about it?

SALLY-ANNE Weren't we supposed to be luxuriating on one of the moons of Plenagon. . having some of that sensory emulsion ..

BANTO ZAME (Distant, grumpy) Can it, will you?
SALLY-ANNE If it weren't for the Doctor we'd be dead by now.

BANTO ZAME (Mocking) Oooh, the Doctor, the Doctor...
SALLY-ANNE You're only jealous, he was right.¹⁶² Jealous of his place in my affections.

BANTO ZAME He's a Time Lord, you boot-faced female. (Sighs) Honest to gawd, you drive me twice as mad as my old woman...⁶³

A beat

SALLY-ANNE What did you just say?
BANTO ZAME (Realising the enormity of his error) Er... I said you've got a voice like an old... woman...

SALLY-ANNE You're never married!
BANTO ZAME Oh dear.
SALLY-ANNE You are All this time you've been bloody well married!

FX SALLY-ANNE slaps him across the face.

SALLY-ANNE (CONT'D) You lying, cheating son of a .. sand beast!

BANTO ZAME Now don't overreact, my little sea cucumber ..

SALLY-ANNE Come here!

FX - The sound of a scuffle. DOCTOR WHO jogs over

BANTO ZAME Geroff!!

DOCTOR WHO What's going on?

BANTO ZAME Nothing.

SALLY-ANNE Oh Doctor . hold me ..

DOCTOR WHO What have you done to her, Zame?

BANTO ZAME Nothing plenty of other people haven't done.

SALLY-ANNE Come here, you...

FX - The scuffle begins anew. DOCTOR WHO separates them.

DOCTOR WHO Calm down! Honestly - whatever your interpersonal peccadilloes -

BANTO ZAME (*Weary*) Here we go

DOCTOR WHO - the diamond is the important thing!

FX - A shimmering noise.

DOCTOR WHO (*CONT'D*) The force shield - the creature must have switched it off!

BANTO ZAME Well let's grab that ruddy diamond and get out of here then, shall we?¹⁶⁴ I'll go myself, it'll be quicker.

DOCTOR WHO Yes, alright - then straight into the TARDIS. Mel's waiting inside

BANTO ZAME (*Thoughtful*) Oh oh good .

FX - BANTO runs to get the diamond. We hear the JELLOID slithering back.

JELLOID (*Coming closer*) Is that all right? Have you got it?

DOCTOR WHO Jelloid, I cannot thank you enough.

JELLOID What - what is. this?

FX - A 'glinting' noise as he picks the object up

SALLY-ANNE What's what?

JELLOID This!

SALLY-ANNE Just a bit of metal, innit?

JELLOID (*With mounting anger*) No... it says 'We called while you were out please call our depot on Syrranus Traxea to arrange another suitable millennium for delivery'. . No!

DOCTOR WHO But... we were here all the time. .

SALLY-ANNE We didn't see nobody.

BANTO ZAME (*Distant, out of puff*) Sally-Anne. you going to give me a hand with this?

SALLY-ANNE (*Pointedly*) Hold on. We're talking to our mate.

BANTO ZAME (*Hidden agenda*) All right... I'll do it by myself, then...

FX - We hear BANTO dragging the diamond away in the B/G of the following exchange. He eventually enters the TARDIS and shuts the door

JELLOID What? Er... oh no, of course... they must have been using Vektons as their delivery agents ..¹⁶⁴

SALLY-ANNE Vektons?

DOCTOR WHO Vektons The fastest moving creatures in the cosmos They learnt to manipulate time so they move forty times faster than everybody else Of course - the fly!¹⁶⁶

SALLY-ANNE Was a Vekton?

DOCTOR WHO Trying to attract our attention It must have flown off when we didn't answer its call.

JELLOID Oh no... another call to the depot. another delay. another eternity of waiting here on this very same spot. nothing to entertain or divert me... (*sobs*) .¹⁶⁷

SALLY-ANNE There there.
JELLOID Please don't touch me
DOCTOR WHO Now there's no need to -
FX - The TARDIS dematerializes A moment of stunned silence.
SALLY-ANNE 'Ere!
DOCTOR WHO Zame! Banto Zame - come back! The underhanded idiot!
SALLY-ANNE He's gone and left us! On this dump with just an old jelly for company!¹⁶⁸
JELLOID (*Stifling its sobs, becoming threatening*) Yes.. and what an angry old jelly I am!

41. INT. TARDIS CONTROL ROOM - DAY

MELANIE What have you done? That control sets the TARDIS moving!
BANTO ZAME I know. I saw the Doctor use it earlier Not just a pretty face, me
MELANIE (*Furious*) I hope you're pleased with yourself - abandoning the Doctor! And for what? What do you hope to gain?
BANTO ZAME (*Placating*) Listen, listen -
MELANIE You may have set yourself up to imitate him, but he's worth ten of you - a hundred
BANTO ZAME Mel, calm down for a moment. He doesn't matter right now. I've got something to tell you -
MELANIE And don't think you can get away with the treasures - we're heading straight back to Generios 1 to hand them over!
BANTO ZAME Mel, I love you.
MELANIE Whether we like it or not, the Cylinder - (*realising, stunned*)... what?
BANTO ZAME I love you. You are the most beautiful, intelligent and spirited woman I have ever met. Please don't say no please take my hand and say we'll dance together forever under the stars!
MELANIE Are you insane?
BANTO ZAME You really know how to let a guy down gently. Would it make any difference if I asked will you marry me?

42. EXT. GAS PLANET - DAY

DOCTOR WHO is pleading with the JELLOID.

DOCTOR WHO Please - you've got to activate the teleport pad. .
SALLY-ANNE We've got to get after them.
DOCTOR WHO It's vital that we reach Generios 1!
JELLOID (*Bitter*) Why? They have all they need... Why should you not stay here with me and outsit eternity itself?
DOCTOR WHO Look, as soon as I get the TARDIS back I'll go straight to Syrranus Traxea and pick up your entertainment unit and bring it back here Time Lord's honour. I can be back here in five minutes. You won't have to wait.
JELLOID Oh oh all right then. I'm a very reasonable single-celled organism, all things considered.
FX Blubbery bleeps and blips as he sets the teleporter up.
JELLOID I've set it to follow the trail of your ship, Doctor

DOCTOR WHO Thank you, Jelloid. Now - we must ensure the safety of Generios! I must confront that Cylinder - it can't be allowed to roam the universe pillaging wherever it will!

SALLY-ANNE And I must clobber my boyfriend! He can't be allowed to roam the universe pillaging wherever he will.

DOCTOR WHO I wouldn't normally condone the use of violence, Sally-Anne, but just this once, I'm inclined to agree! Goodbye, my friend!¹⁶⁹

FX - The teleporter operates.

JELLOID Goodbye! Ooh - don't forget the remote control

DOCTOR WHO (*Fading*) I won't!

JELLOID And the free stand!¹⁷⁰

45. INT. COUNCIL CHAMBER DAY

COUNCILLOR POTIKOL is pacing nervously. The crowd outside are murmuring worriedly. We hear the noise of the CYLINDER descending ever closer.

POTIKOL Is it still out there? That horrible cylinder

GUARD Do you want me to open the curtains and have a look?

POTIKOL I suppose so. Oh I never thought it would end like this. .

GUARD It's right outside, sir.

CYLINDER VOICE Generios! Your time has elapsed. Where is the Tribute? Bring me the Tribute! The Tribute, I say!

GUARD I think it wants the Tribute, sir

POTIKOL Oh, Doctor where are you?

FX - TARDIS materialises.

GUARD Sir Can you hear that?

POTIKOL Is that the TARDIST? It can't be! Oh. . it doesn't look much like it.

FX - The doors open.

POTIKOL (*CONT'D*) Doctor! It is you! I fall to my knees and prostrate myself before you You are the saviour of my people . .

BANTO ZAME Oh get up, Potikol. (*To MEL*) I mean what I say, Mel. When this is all over we'll buy a little place out on the rim worlds Abidos, maybe. We could be happy there, you and me.

MELANIE Listen to me, Banto Zame. Even if I wasn't (*thinking quickly*) an android Yes, an android.¹⁷¹ I'd still never marry somebody like you!

BANTO ZAME An android? But you seem so . . lifelike!

MELANIE That's how they make us . . m-m-make us. So you see. click brrrr . I'm not even flesh and blood!¹⁷²

BANTO ZAME You're a lovely girl, Melanie, but you're a terrible liar. I've heard all the excuses in my time: 'I'm an android, I'm a hermaphrodite, I'm a shape-changing psychopath from the planet Vashir . .'

POTIKOL (*Blurting out in a mad frenzy of horror and terror*)

Doctor please! That cylinder's right outside! It could destroy us at any moment! I don't want to die! I have a wife! (*He begins to sob*)

BANTO ZAME Well lucky you, Mel, bring him the flamin' treasures.

CYLINDER VOICE You have completed the task? Speak! My sensors are ready to receive the Tribute!

POTIKOL (*Still sniffing*) We have them here, oh great Cylinder!

FX - MEL wheels the treasures out in a shopping trolley

MELANIE *(Out of puff)* They're in this trolley..

CYLINDER VOICE I must inspect them. What are these treasures?

BANTO ZAME These are the Shelves of Infinity. The greatest achievement of multi dimensional engineering in the known universe.

CYLINDER VOICE Hmmm. these shelves please me. The second treasure. At once!

MELANIE Mentos - the greatest storehouse of knowledge in the known uni. in the cosmos.

CYLINDER VOICE Intriguing! But the third treasure! I must see the third treasure!

FX - DOCTOR WHO and SALLY-ANNE transmat in. A gasp from those assembled

DOCTOR WHO The third treasure is the grandest of all!¹³

MELANIE Doctor! What a relief.

BANTO ZAME Sally Anne What a nightmare.

DOCTOR WHO Behold the largest diamond in all time and space...

FX - A burst of big, choral music.

CYLINDER VOICE You have done well.

POTIKOL So . er, we aren't to be destroyed then?

CYLINDER VOICE No! I am a Cylinder of my word. The Tribute is satisfactory

FX A huge sigh of relief. The crowd outside cheers and claps.

CYLINDER VOICE (CONT'D) Now, which of you has brought together these treasures?

POTIKOL It was the Doctor, oh Cylinder. This fine gentleman.

MELANIE Hey! He's not the Doctor!

SALLY-ANNE Too right he's not.

CYLINDER VOICE I wish to reward this Doctor Speak!

POTIKOL Yes, Doctor. Go on.

BANTO ZAME *(In Doctor voice)* The task you set me was challenging indeed. I needed all the ingenuity and legerdemain at my disposal.

SALLY-ANNE Oooh! And after what he said about you, Doctor!

BANTO ZAME A mission fraught with danger, and one for which I will gladly receive any financial reparations you wish to give me. As a Time Lord I have no use for filthy lucre, but on this occasion I think I can force myself to make an exception. I could always give it to charity. Later.

MELANIE You can't let him get away with this, Doctor.

DOCTOR WHO Shush, Mel!

MELANIE *(Sotto)* What's up? You look like the cat that got the cream!

DOCTOR WHO Just watch...

CYLINDER VOICE Very well, Doctor. Raise your hand that I may know you

SALLY-ANNE Oy! Don't you dare! He's not the Doctor.

CYLINDER VOICE Who is this personage?

BANTO ZAME A common space-troll, your eminence. Her mental state is afflicted.

POTIKOL But I thought...

SALLY-ANNE Don't worry, Councillor, I've got a man who appreciates me now standing right over there The Doctor

CYLINDER VOICE What is this? Who is the Doctor?

DOCTOR WHO *(In cod, Banto Zame-y voice)* Not me! The woman's mad.

CYLINDER VOICE Then who are you?

DOCTOR WHO I'm Banto Zame, your honour (*with relish*) just a two bit lying bigamist from the gutters of a superdense mudball. Nobody important.

BANTO ZAME Why you. . (*he stifles his protest*)

CYLINDER VOICE Then why does the woman say that you are the Doctor?

DOCTOR WHO She... er, worships me. Follows me everywhere I go. She's quite mad. Just as the Doctor said That Doctor. There.

CYLINDER VOICE Hmmm. . I am suspicious.

MELANIE (*Worried, sotto*) Doctor!

DOCTOR WHO Mad, though a lusty wench. No, that's the Doctor over there Hang on, look.

FX - DOCTOR WHO rummages in his pocket for the newspaper he confiscated from SOKKERY in Part One

DOCTOR WHO There, see? He's plastered all over the front page of this newspaper. If I just scrape the bile off you can see him. .

CYLINDER VOICE But still I must be certain..

DOCTOR WHO And, the Doctor's a Time Lord, your cylinderness. And a Time Lord would never do this.

FX - DOCTOR WHO kisses SALLY-ANNE. Much 'mwah'ing, please.

SALLY-ANNE (*Shocked but very pleased*) Ooh Doctor!

MELANIE (*Scandalised*) Doctor!

CYLINDER VOICE You are right. A Time Lord would never do *that!*

BANTO ZAME Blimey I mean, indeed. We are above such. . things Now, the reparation you promised .

CYLINDER VOICE Very well, Doctor. I shall now reward you.

FX - A beam transfixes BANTO

BANTO ZAME What the. ? I can't move

SALLY-ANNE What's happening?

POTIKOL Doctor!

GUARD He's caught in some kind of beam, sir

POTIKOL I can see that! What are you doing to him?

CYLINDER VOICE Positive identification obtained You are the Doctor Also known as Doctor John Smith; Doctor Johann Schmidt; Doctor von Wer; Theta Sigma; Ka Farag Gatri; Snail. ¹⁴

MEL and DOCTOR WHO hold the following exchange in a whisper

MELANIE (*Sotto*) I get it! The Cylinder wasn't after the treasure at all.. it was after you!

DOCTOR WHO (*Sotto*) Be quiet Mel! I'm Banto Zame, remember?

MELANIE And you knew all along?

DOCTOR WHO Modesty prevents me from claiming that. but I did work it out a few minutes ago There are coincidences and *coincidences*, Mel. I knew something wasn't right. This whole thing seemed, as you so eloquently put it, 'fishy'

BANTO ZAME No! Let me go! I'm not the Doctor! It's him. Over there. Look, if I could point I'd show you ..

CYLINDER VOICE (*Now very stern*) You are wanted by my masters, Doctor. The Sussyrats of Chalzon have arraigned you for trial. Too long you have evaded their justice

SALLY-ANNE I'm not following this at all

DOCTOR WHO The Cylinder set a task it knew only the Doctor could complete

CYLINDER VOICE Indeed My sensors registered newscasts of the Doctor in this system. I tracked him here and now I have him.

BANTO ZAME Let me go! Let me go! Please!

CYLINDER VOICE No, Doctor. You are coming with me. The journey will be a long one. You will be placed in a time bubble from which even you cannot escape. I am sorry to have troubled you, people of Generios. The loss of your eleventh planet was... regrettable. Goodbye.

BANTO ZAME Help! Sally-Anne! Mell! Doctor! Anybody! Help!

FX - The beam withdraws. BANTO's cries become more faint

BANTO ZAME (CONT'D) My wife's gonna kill me...

FX - There is a moment of silence Then the CYLINDER blasts off into space and is gone.

GUARD It's gone.

POTIKOL (Sadly) With the Doctor its only victim. We owe him so much. Again.

FX - A huge cheer from outside The hammering on the doors begins again.

GUARD The people are rejoicing, sir!

POTIKOL I must go and address them Tell them of this terrible blow. Come!

FX - POTIKOL and the GUARD exit.

MELANIE Poor Banto. Even he didn't deserve that. (A rueful laugh) You know, he actually proposed to me.

SALLY-ANNE He proposes to everyone.

MELANIE He told me I was the most beautiful, spirited, intelligent woman.

SALLY-ANNE (Joining in) ...spirited, intelligent woman he'd ever met.

MELANIE/SALLY-ANNE Eyes like limpid pools, a smile to shame the gods of love. ¹⁷⁵

DOCTOR WHO Ah - never mind, ladies, Casanova's long gone now Although I suppose I ought to rescue him from whatever grisly fate these Sussurats have arranged. I do have a reputation to keep up, after all.

SALLY-ANNE Why bother? Good riddance, I reckon. Anyway, I've got you now, Doctor.

DOCTOR WHO Ah. ¹⁷⁶ Sally Anne. I think I may have given you the wrong impression

SALLY-ANNE Come off it. No man kisses me like that and doesn't mean it

MELANIE It was all part of the bluff! Isn't that right, Doctor?

SALLY-ANNE Really?

DOCTOR WHO (Uncomfortable) Er... well, yes...

SALLY-ANNE (Devastated) Oh. Oh well. Suppose I'll just wander down the spaceport, then, catch a shuttle out. Find some other loser to attach myself to. I'm a magnet for losers. ¹⁷⁷

FX - POTIKOL re enters. The crowd are shouting SALLY-ANNE's name.

POTIKOL Sally-Anne - I have told the crowd of the Doctor's sacrifice. They wish to see you, my dear. To express their deep sorrow, and their gratitude to you.

SALLY-ANNE What? Ooh, really? Oh, hang on though, I suppose it's the Doctor they really want.

DOCTOR WHO The Doctor couldn't have done it without you, Sally-Anne. Why do you think I.. I mean, he has travelling companions?

SALLY-ANNE So - I was the Doctor's companion?
DOCTOR WHO Yes, Sally-Anne. And you did a fine job. Isn't that right, Mel?
MELANIE Well I.. (*kindly*)¹⁷⁸ yes Yes of course you did. Couldn't have done better myself
SALLY-ANNE Oh. Oh... cheers. Thanks. You ain't so bad really, you know, ginge.
MELANIE Hmm Thanks I think.
SALLY-ANNE And ta for everything, Doctor. I ain't all that keen on this deadly danger bit, but it weren't so bad with a living legend like you around. Come 'ere.
FX SALLY-ANNE plants a big, wet kiss on DOCTOR WHO's cheek
SALLY-ANNE See you around .. sexy!
DOCTOR WHO (*To himself*) Sexy. .?
POTIKOL The crowd, Sally-Anne?¹⁷⁹
FX - POTIKOL and SALLY-ANNE walk away, their voices fading.
POTIKOL (*CONT'D*) And there is still the matter of the pluvon power cells.
SALLY-ANNE The what? Oh - oh them
POTIKOL I should be able to transfer you the ten million credits later today...
SALLY-ANNE Ooh! On - that'll do nicely
FX - They exit through the door, which then closes.
MELANIE Hmm You know, that money was swindled out of these people ..
DOCTOR WHO I think Sally-Anne earned it today, don't you? Now then - I've had quite enough of the vulgar end of time.
MELANIE Me too. Hey Doctor - why did those Sussurats have such a big grudge against you anyway?¹⁸⁰ They really did go to a lot of trouble to get at you
DOCTOR WHO I've no idea, Mel I haven't met them yet. When I do, I must be sure to really, really annoy them.¹⁸¹
MELANIE (*Laughs*) I suppose we'd better go and rescue poor old Banto then?
DOCTOR WHO There's a favour I have to do for the Jelloid first. And of course I was winning a game of Monopoly. .
MELANIE You are incorrigible.
DOCTOR WHO Don't worry. We'll rescue him, Mel. (*Mischievously*) In time. But for the moment, I think there's only room in the universe for the one Doctor. Don't you?
FX - They laugh and enter the TARDIS which swiftly dematerializes.

FADE UP CLOSING THEME

THE END

NOTES

1. Added dialogue before the beginning of Part One – ANNOUNCER: '**And now, Colin Baker and Bonnie Langford star in a new adventure spelling double trouble for Doctor Who**' The ANNOUNCER is played by sound designer Alistair Lock

PART ONE

2. Before his line, DOCTOR WHO laughs maniacally
3. This line is repeated.
4. Deleted dialogue: '~~Knocked it with my elbow.~~'
5. MELANIE mispronounces the word 'Generios'. Then, added dialogue with the correct pronunciation:

DOCTOR WHO Generios 1.

MELANIE Hm. Generios 1.

Gary Russell 'Recipe for disaster put Colin Baker and Bonnie Langford in a recording booth together and then try and get them to do a take in a straightforward manner! I don't know who was laughing more in the control room, myself or Alistair, but we could barely concentrate on our jobs and I got told off for being too happy! Bah – I got my revenge when Bonnie stumbled over "Generios" and Colin corrected her. We still needed a second take but I made them keep that error in!'

6. Line changed to: 'Pass ~~me~~ my coat, will you?'
7. Added dialogue – DOCTOR WHO: '**Now then... bit tight.**' This is complemented by the sound of DOCTOR WHO putting his coat on.
8. 'I' added at the beginning of the line.
9. '**Well,**' added at the beginning of the line
10. Line changed to: 'Thank you... but would you mind not dribbling on ~~to~~ it...'
11. Line changed to: 'Come on, **pal!**' *Gary Russell: 'Nick Pegg has been a Big Finish stalwart since the beginning he wrote, directed and even cropped up in The Spectre of Lanyon Moor and after that a handful of other stories featured his dulcet tones. Originally he was going to be Potikol and Steve Fewell was Sökkery but I changed my mind (not sure if either of them knew that!) Nick opted to do an impression of William Hague who, I believe, might have been a famous politician at the time! Hence the "Chum" was replaced with a more Northern-ish "Pal".'*
12. Line changed to: 'Here, you have a drop, pretty lady... anyone ever tell you you've got **fantastic** ringlets?'
13. '**Well,**' added at the beginning of the line.
14. Line changed to: 'So – what **happened to** these "Skelloids"?'
15. Line changed to: '**I somehow** doubt that.'
16. '**Normally,**' added at the beginning of the line.
17. Line changed to: 'Anyway, Potikol, time's winged **charity** marches on – especially for a Time Lord. Sally-Anne and I really must get back to the **STARDIS**' For the rest of the script – although they are not annotated – all instances of "TARDIST" are changed to

'STARDIS'. Gary Russell. 'TARDIST was an in-joke by Gareth and Clay it's from an old TV interview or somesuch I imagine where someone said "TARDIS" wrong. However we realised that TARDIST and TARDIS still sounded too similar so we opted for STARDIS instead Banto's quoting of Andrew Marvell's poem To His Coy Mistress got a bit scrambled on the take (he says "charity" rather than "chariot") but we all thought it was far more in character for Banto to misquote something he had heard rather than be educated to the Doctor's level and get the quote right Another example of Banto not quite being as smart as the Doctor'

18. Line changed to: 'I will go at once to the Great Bank of Generios and make **you** out a cheque'

19. Line changed to: 'Everything **round** here seems to be Great.'

20. Added dialogue SOKKERY: 'Hello'

21. Line changed to: 'Eh up!'

22. Line changed to: 'Yeah, **yeah, that's him, yeah**, that's the Doctor.'

23. Line changed to: '**Not** without a pass'

24. No music.

25. Line changed to: 'What, you don't reckon **they've** rumbled us?'

26. Line changed to: 'What - **you mean** your cash machine's on the blink?'

27. Line changed to: 'I have dispatched a **great** space dredger to blast it out of the skies'

28. Deleted dialogue - GUARD: '~~Just lay her down here, sir, against the wall.~~'

29. Line changed to: 'I could do with a glass of water - **it would** clear my head.'

30. Line changed to: 'A great calamity - another great calamity - has befallen us! Inform the council that our **great space** dredger has been destroyed.'

31. Line changed to: 'There's **nothing** there.' Gary Russell: 'Sally-Anne was written as a pure Coronation Street-style teenager, but Jason and I wanted to get Clare Buckfield in for this one, who isn't Northern at all. Thus odd terms and phrases throughout the script became more "Saarf London, innit" Jason had met Clare before but I only knew her through 2 Point 4 Children which, whilst not my favourite sitcom ever, did feature four amazing lead actors as the main family so I was overjoyed to meet her Fab lady, completely unfazed by being a mega TV star It also took me ages to realise that her boyfriend, "Dec", who she talked about was in the fact the one who isn't Ant in "Ant and ..". When she eventually introduced me to him a few months later, I immediately tried to get him interested in doing a Doctor Who, along with Mr McPhelin, but alas neither of them are really Who aficionados and Dec said no. Bah humbug! Stick him in a snake infested jungle, I say!'

32. Line changed to: 'But this is my system, I've been working West Galaxy a long time, twenty-five years in **the** business.'

33. Line changed to: 'Here, **you** get your hands off my chest!'

34. Added dialogue - [2ND] GUARD: '**Yes sir!**'. [2ND] GUARD, who does not appear in the script, was played by Alistair Lock.

35. Line replaced by – [2ND] GUARD: **‘Right away, sir!’**
36. Underneath this line, added dialogue – BANTO ZAME: **‘Bye, bye. Give them an autographed picture.’** Gary Russell: *‘It took Chris Biggins all of thirty seconds to realise that every ad lib Colin could do, he’d do one too. It became a contest I think! The one under this line about getting an autograph was undoubtedly one of the best. Gareth and Clay wrote Banto for Chris Biggins right from the word go. There simply wasn’t anyone else in their minds. Through Stephen Fewell (he and Chris had been in an Oscar Wilde play together) Gareth put the idea to him, which I then followed up. Many years ago I’d worked with Chns on a school’s TV show we did where he was the baddie and we bonded, as did all the cast, over a mutual loathing for a member of the production team. It was nice to see him fifteen or so years later and realise he still remembered! The man is adorable and I’d love to hear more from Banto one day.’*
37. Line changed to: **‘That object has destroyed our great space dredger – and now it’s heading straight for us!’**
38. Line changed to: **‘Yes, very, very good, Potikol, I get it.’**
39. Added dialogue – DOCTOR WHO: **‘Charming!’**
40. Added dialogue – [2ND] GUARD: **‘Right.’** Gary Russell: *‘In post-production Alistair realised that the same guard as earlier (played by stalwart Mark Wright) couldn’t conceivably do everything, so he replaced one or two of Mark’s lines with his own voice and added in a few more lines as well. Never misses an opportunity, does Ali.’*
41. **‘Right,’** added at the beginning of the line. Then, added dialogue – [2ND] GUARD: **‘Oh, yes.’**
42. Line changed to: **‘Yes, yes, yes, yes, you’re right...’**
43. Line changed to: **‘Concentrate, Mel, concentrate.’**
44. SOKKERY’s entire dialogue in this scene was changed to: **‘Whassat? Whassat thing? It’s huger than the sky! It’s blotting everything out! Oh, and we were having such a laugh as well. Eh, do you mind keeping the noise down up there? There’s people down here trying to have a party. (Burps) Sorry. Look at the size of it! It’s enormous!’** Gary Russell: *‘Talking of never missing an opportunity – here’s Mr Pegg taking a couple of liberties with what’s scripted “Look at the size of it” indeed!’*
45. Line changed to: **‘It’s right over the city!’**

PART TWO

46. This scene does not appear in Part Two. Gary Russell: *‘This scene isn’t in the final version. I honestly have no idea why not. Probably time, or maybe Alistair felt it interrupted the flow of the climactic end to Part One. He was probably right. Probably.’*
47. Line changed to: **‘I thought for a moment there – ’**
48. Rather than CYLINDER VOICE’s line being in the background, it is intercut with DOCTOR WHO’s line:
CYLINDER VOICE These must be presented to me in good repair.
DOCTOR WHO Incredible.

CYLINDER VOICE You will bring them to me and I will analyse them in order to assess their value.

DOCTOR WHO It must be transmitting to the entire planet.

CYLINDER VOICE Failure to do so will result in immediate death for your peoples.

49. As indicated, this line does not appear in this scene.

50. On the director's copy of the script, the pronunciation of 'gluarb' is phonetically specified as 'gloo-arb'.

51. Line changed to: **'The second thing?'**

52. Line changed to: 'Come on, the **Great** Council Chamber.'

53. Added dialogue.

MELANIE No, he's not.

DOCTOR WHO No.

54. Line changed to:

POTIKOL Oh goodness - not these idiots again. Guards.

[2ND] GUARD Yes, sir!

POTIKOL Throw them out - into the streets this time!

[2ND] GUARD Right!

DOCTOR WHO What?

POTIKOL I must go to the people and try to calm them!

Good luck Doctor - the future of Generios is in your hands, again.

55. Added dialogue - **[2ND] GUARD: 'Yes!'**

56. Line changed to: 'Oh, **sorry**, did someone say something?'

57. Line changed to: 'What business is **that** of yours?'

58. Line changed to: ~~'Feh~~ 'Everybody knows that!'

59. Line changed to: 'That's a . well, a. (*signs*) **it's** a portaloos.'

60. **BANTO ZAME** and **DOCTOR WHO** both have two extra **'Yes's**.

61. Line changed to: **'Lest** any should doubt the seriousness of my intention, I shall now destroy the eleventh planet of this system!'

62. Deleted dialogue **POTIKOL: 'They've gone inside.'**

63. Added dialogue - **DOCTOR WHO. 'What?'**

64. **BANTO ZAME** says an extra, **'Oh dear.'**

65. **BANTO ZAME** says an extra, **'Oh dear'**

66. Added dialogue.

SALLY-ANNE Oh

DOCTOR WHO Thank you

67. Line changed to: "**Not that far off...**" no, **no, no.**'

68. Line changed to: ~~'In fact, Mel,~~ as time is rather against us...'

69. Added dialogue - **SALLY-ANNE. 'Yeah.'**

70. Line changed to: 'So, Melanie - how did you pal up with **that** Doctor in the first place, then?'

71. Line changed to: 'Don't go boasting about that, people will think **we're** strange.'

72. Line changed to. **'Now**, we've got to find Unit ZX419 **Whatever that is.'**

73. Line changed to: 'Whatever it was, it came from that ruin **there** on the horizon.'

74. Line changed to: **Look**, look again.'
75. Line changed to: "Unit EM670. This light, attractive, interlocking, easy-to-assemble anglepoise lighting feature is available in both burnt ochre and **aqua marine** blue finish. Whether you're working or just relaxing, it provides a reassuring glow to relieve the pointless and arbitrary existence of the human being".'
76. This line is said under the preceding line
77. Under this line, BANTO ZAME says, **'Oh no.'**
78. Line changed to, 'It was incredibly successful – supplied the whole **world**, and far beyond.'
79. Line changed to:
SALLY-ANNE A what-theatre?
DOCTOR WHO Oh, never mind.
80. This line and the preceding line was changed to:
DOCTOR WHO **Here we go**
FX They clamber in. Tearing fabric
SALLY-ANNE Careful! ~~You've ripped my skirt!~~
DOCTOR WHO **Sorry.** Shhh!
81. **'Look,** added at the beginning of the line.

PART THREE

82. Part Three has the Delaware syntheiser arrangement of the title music, which was arranged by Delia Derbyshire and Paddy Kingsland in 1972. Gary Russell. *'The use of the Delaware version of the theme (cf Australian version of Carnival of Monsters – it's bound to be referred to on the DVD or in a book by David J Howe if you don't know the reference) was a suggestion made by David Darlington one Thursday night on the way home from the pub; and Robert Dick suggested using it on one episode only. I thought it was an excellent idea and fitted the tone of the story perfectly. Of course, I suggested Part Three and only realised that my smart arsed Doctor Who knowledge was at fault when the aforementioned DVD came out - it should have been on Part Two to make the joke work! Durr . '*

83. **'Look,** added at the beginning of the line
84. Line changed to: '...I only needed it to **get...**'
85. Line changed to: 'Forget it, Mel – you can't reason with **those** things.'
86. **'No, no,** added at the beginning of the line.
87. Added dialogue – BANTO ZAME: **'Think about it'**
88. Deleted dialogue – ASSEMBLER 2. **'Why must we wait?'**
89. Line changed to: 'You use it to fry food – ~~en-a-hob...~~'
90. **'Correct,** added at the beginning of the line.
91. Line changed to: 'Er . . um... I **do** know this one...'
92. Line changed to: 'Far more likely the products of **an** advanced technology.'
93. Line changed to: 'And very sexy. . no, no, let's not start **that** all again.'

94. Added dialogue – SALLY-ANNE ‘**Oh yeah?**’
95. Line changed to: ‘We don’t know the full situation – **we can’t** just blunder in.’
96. Deleted dialogue – MELANIE: ~~‘The instructions are attached to this bit. It looks simple enough. A straightforward shelving unit.’~~
97. Line changed to ‘We shall withdraw and observe **you** on our visiscope.’
98. Line changed to: ‘**This** must be Rod A.’
99. ‘**And,**’ added at the beginning of the line
100. Line changed to: ‘I don’t like it when **you’re** flabbergasted.’
101. Line changed to: ‘Unfortunately, until the correct code is released into the panel you see **just** beneath me, I am irrevocably conditioned to answer questions. And before you ask, the only other people who knew the code were my designers, and, **goodness me**, they’re long dead.’ Gary Russell. ‘To say that Nick Pegg and Jamie Goddard had fun doing all this would be an understatement. I think they did most of it in one take, too! At the end of this book, and on the end of the CD as well, you can find all the questions Clay wrote for ad libbing in this scene I had met Jane more years ago than either of us care to remember at a Doctor Who convention she was co-comping. We then met [cough loudly] years later when I realised she was, as they used to say in genteel times “stepping out” with writer Rob Shearman. (They’re now married, awww.) Janie’s a top actress and one of those people one can turn to because she can do anything, and nothing fazes her. Love her to bits. “You’re a Spanish lady,” I’ll say, or a “Scandinavian lady of leisure”. Or “a four foot tall hamster” Or, in this case, “Anne Robinson on speed!” Colin Baker adores Janie as well, which is just as well as I think if anyone else had played this, his disappointment that we didn’t actually have Ms Robinson (I was too scared to ask) would have been all consuming and I might not have survived this first day of recording!’
102. ‘**Correct.** . .’ added at the beginning of the line.
103. Added dialogue – SALLY-ANNE: ‘**Oh yeah.**’
104. Line changed to: ‘Hold on, hold on, **just a minute** as my companion, you’re supposed to try and rouse me from my sloughs of despond.’
105. Line changed to: ‘(Awkward) There, there. **Here, look.** Have my hanky’
106. Line changed to: ‘No, **no, no, no,** look.’
107. ‘**No,**’ added at the beginning of the line.
108. Line changed to: ‘Yes, there’s the section we finished... in which case, these parts here – **must be** .. must be new’
109. In this speech, two lines are transposed. ‘That year the snow fell eight feet deep,’ and ‘We lived in a big house about seven miles from the town.’ Also, line changed to: ‘And though it was hard, and the road was long, we made it to **the** church hall, and we gave that show!’ Gary Russell: ‘No footnote, just an observation that this moment is one of my all time faves of everything we’ve done Bonnie and Chris were just sublime’
110. Rather than said from outside, before this line the doors open. Then, after the line, they close again.

111. Added dialogue – BANTO ZAME: ‘Oh.’
112. Line changed to: ‘Um... no, **no. Course not, no**’
113. Line changed to. ‘You’ll have to do better than that, **you know?**’
114. Line changed to: ‘I based myself in Woking during a **Cyberman** invasion’
115. Line changed to: ‘Wish **number** one – peace throughout the galaxy.’
116. Added dialogue – DOCTOR WHO: ‘**Come on, yes?**’
117. Line changed to: ‘Later that **same** day you were locked in a dungeon by the evil Mantelli?’
118. Line changed to: ‘Very clever **these** research devices.’
119. Line changed to: ‘Here, **have your coat back and** let me have a go.’
120. ‘O! Questioner!’ is said under the following line
121. The despairing sound is actually DOCTOR WHO saying, ‘**Yeah, sure**’
122. Deleted dialogue – DOCTOR WHO: ‘~~Wait! I’ve got it, I know what to ask... How could I have been so stupid...~~’
123. Added dialogue DOCTOR WHO: ‘**I’ve got it!**’ The line is said over QUESTIONER and SALLY-ANNE’s lines.
124. Line changed to: ‘Er... I’m sure I’ll have the answer soon. . it’s going to be a **little** bit tricky. .’
125. At all these instances, the QUESTIONER says, ‘**I’ll have to hurry you.**’
126. Added dialogue QUESTIONER: ‘**Hurry, hurry, hurry.**’
127. ‘**Mentos,**’ added at the beginning of the line.
128. Line changed to: ‘**Now,** come on – let’s disconnect the box and get back to the others.’
129. Line changed to: ‘Ho ho.’
130. Line changed to: ‘Then how can the humans have completed **the** task?’ Gary Russell: *‘I believe Gareth had recently had an (allegedly) unfortunate experience involving a well-known Scandinavian self-assembly furniture company when plotting this! The assemblers were meant to be based, vocally, on the Martians that used to “smash them all to little bits” when discussing potatoes in the old Smash TV ads. No one under 20 probably got the joke; old farts like me loved it! It’s not going to be a surprise that in asking Adam Buxton in to do this (another Mark Gatiss introduction, naturel ement) I also asked Joe Cornish as well but he had a family commitment on the Sunday we were recording on and couldn’t do it (Adam and Joe are fab TV comedians, for the benefit of overseas viewers or Brits who have lived under a rock for the last decade). Stephen Fewell, already doing Potikol, stepped in, bless him Adam was terrific fun, not at all starry (but as a mate of Gatiss’s, I wouldn’t expect him to be almost everyone Mark has ever introduced to us has never been anything other than delightful) and delighted to be a part of Doctor Who. He stood in front of me at a David Byrne concert a couple of years later but I didn’t say “hi” because he seemed to be out just to have a nice time and probably wouldn’t want attention drawn to himself. Steve Fewell of course plays Jason Kane*

in our Benny audios and was very keen to be in The One Doctor because of Chris Biggins. Again, Steve's the kind of person who can turn his hand to anything at a moment's notice. I think he had about three days' warning that he was going to be doing this extra role.'

131. The second 'Erase' is said by ASSEMBLER 1

132. Line changed to: 'Or footstools and **an** occasional table with accompanying pouffe?'

133. Line changed to: 'I warn you - a verbal duel against me, as you should remember, if you used the smallest fraction of your **cerebral cortex, can only** end in ignominy for you!'

134. This line was replaced by:

BANTO ZAME I did not! I did not!

DOCTOR WHO Yes, you did!

BANTO ZAME I did not!

135. This line is said by SALLY-ANNE only.

136. Line changed to: 'It wasn't *that* clever a suggestion **then**.'

137. Line changed to: 'It must take the particular geological extremes at work here to produce **one of that size**'

138. Line changed to: 'No one's going to leave **a diamond** as valuable as that lying out in the open and unguarded.'

139. Line changed to: 'Stop squabbling **you two**'

140. 'No,' said twice.

141. The episode ends with the Delaware synthesiser arrangement of the title music.

PART FOUR

142. At all these instances, MELANIE says an extra, 'No.'

143. 'Oh,' is said twice.

144. Line changed to: 'Quick while it's **out**, grab the diamond!' Gary Russell: 'I thought "kaylyed" was a terribly old fashioned phrase and not one that sounded very Banto-ish.'

145. 'Now,' added at the end of the line.

146. Line changed to: 'Now, that's staying power for you'

147. Line changed to: 'You can't **just** leave powerful artefacts lying about...'

148. Added dialogue - JELLOID: '**So, they had me sign a fifty million year non-negotiable contract.**' Gary Russell: 'Guess what, Matt Lucas was another Gatiss inspired piece of casting. In fact, we asked Mark to play the Cylinder Voice but he was filming something about The League of Gentlemen I think so we asked Matt to do that as well as the Jelloid. He had everyone in hysterics during these scenes - his little ad libs and other touches were delivered so matter-of-factly that you couldn't believe this voice was coming from such a quiet, unassuming man. I remember he wore a suit to the studio (I think he was going onto some bash afterwards) but made a comment that he thought everyone should dress up for radio like the old BBC actors and comedians did in the Fifties and Sixties. We did all Matt's stuff towards the end of the second day and it was the perfect way to end a perfect

weekend. Our faces were tired from simply laughing at everything the cast said or did. A fantastic atmosphere which created a fantastic play.'

149. Line changed to: 'Thirty million years **I've served of it now...**'

150. '**Well, you see,**' added that the beginning of the line.

151. '**Problem is,**' added at the beginning of the line.

152. Line changed to: '**But** surely you can see our mission is vitally important?'

153. Line changed to: 'We promise if they show up, ~~then~~ we'll make them wait until you come back.'

154. '**Yes,**' added at the start of the line.

155. '**Er,**' added at the start of the line.

156. Line changed to: '**It's** hovering right over the Complex.'

157. Line changed to: '~~Please~~ - oh please, Great Cylinder, spare us!'

158. Line changed to: 'I don't think **it's listening to you anymore,** sir.'

159. The last three lines of the scene were re-ordered. CYLINDER VOICE's line comes first, followed by the GUARD's and then POTIKOL's.

160. Line replaced by:

FX: TARDIS door opens.

MELANIE Doctor, I can't believe how quickly the TARDIS launderette has got your coat cleaned.

DOCTOR WHO (*Sniffs*) How do I smell?

MELANIE A lot better than you did. But, but we really haven't got time for any more preening. Our three hours are almost up, you know.

Gary Russell: 'The anally-retentive side of me took over at the start of this scene and we added in some stuff about the Doctor's coat now being clean after its immersion in jelly belly gunk!'

161. Added dialogue - SALLY-ANNE: '**Shooo!**'

162. Line changed to: 'You're only jealous ~~he was right~~'

163. 'Gawd' is pronounced as 'God'.

164. Line changed to: 'Well let's grab that ruddy diamond and get out of here then, ~~shall we?~~'

165. Line changed to: '~~What? Er...~~ oh ~~no~~, of course... they must have been using Vektons as their delivery agents...'

166. Line changed to: '**Yes,** Vektons The fastest moving creatures in the cosmos. They learnt to manipulate time so they move forty times faster than everybody else. **Oh no,** of course - the fly!'

167. Line changed to: 'Oh no... another call to the depot... another delay.. another **twenty million years** of waiting here on this very same spot... nothing to entertain or divert me.. **Nothing to guard now, even. Oh, I should never have signed that contract.'**

168. Line changed to: 'On this dump with ~~just~~ an old jelly for company.'

169. Line changed to: 'Goodbye, my **jelloid** friend.'

170. Line changed to: 'And the free **self-assembly** stand.' There is

then some added dialogue in the form of the Jelliod's song: 'I'm a very lonely jelliod/Sitting on my own.' Gary Russell: 'When I listened to the rough edit of this play I was amazed by the Jelliod Song – it was funny, jolly and very, very appropriate. Of course, my amazement was because it wasn't scripted, and nor had Matt recorded such a thing. Alistair had composed and performed and added it because, well, because he wanted to. So now you know, that's not Matt, it's Ali doing a top notch impression.'

171. Deleted dialogue – MELANIE: '~~Yes, an android.~~'

172. Line changed to: 'That's how they make us... ~~m m m make us~~
~~So you see... chok... brrrr... I'm not even flesh and blood.~~'

173. Line changed to: 'The third treasure is the **greatest** of all!'

174. Line changed to: 'Also known as Doctor John Smith; Doctor Johann Schmidt, Doctor von Wer; Theta Sigma, Ka Paraq Gatri; ...**and Snail**'

175. Line changed to. 'Eyes like limpet pools, a smile to shame the gods of ~~love~~...'

176. Line changed to: 'Ah, **yes**'

177. '**Me,**' added at the end of the line

178. At this point, DOCTOR WHO hits MELANIE.

179. This line and the preceding one are transposed

180. On the director's copy of the script, the pronunciation of 'Sussyrats' is phonetically specified as 'Suss-yurr-rats'

181. Line changed to. '**But** when I do, I must be sure to really, *really* annoy them.'

CROSSROADS IN TIME

By Gareth Roberts & Clayton Hickman

PART ONE

A strange incident aboard the TARDIS. The Doctor tells Melanie they've been hurled into the far distant future. But when the doors open they find themselves outside Traveller's Halt, a Midlands motel that seems completely normal.

The Doctor's very confused according to the TARDIS, there's no way this can be present-day (i.e. late 1980s) Earth. Prosaic-minded Mel can't see how it can be anywhere else.

The Doctor and Mel are welcomed by receptionist Carol Chance, who heavily hints that the Doctor and Mel ought to find somewhere else to stay. David Darling, manager of the Motel, then appears with his wife Jane and Carol's demeanor changes at once. She begins to book them in and the suspicious Doctor plays along. Mel overhears the Darlings having something of a marital crisis, with Jane accusing David of infidelity with waitress Denise Perks.

The Doctor decides he needs to take more readings while Mel explores Traveller's Halt. Outside however, he is not happy to see that the TARDIS is missing. An apologetic Darling arrives and tells him the Council took it off in a skip. He's sure everything can be sorted out later.

Mel talks to the waitress, Denise, who tells her of her romantic past, she's been jilted at the altar twice, stalked by a serial killer, and been married four times. Her first husband was killed by a falling chimney, the second ran off with another man, the third was shot in a Post Office raid; the fourth went missing in Venezuela. Mel's amazed - but friendly Denise seems to think this is all very normal.

Mel departs and Denise calls Darling to the dining room and they're soon in a clinch. Denise demands to know when David's going to leave Jane, kick her out and let Denise in to take over the motel. Darling placates her and hurries away. Denise is distracted by a strange crackling noise in one corner of the room - there's an odd liquid seeping through one wall. Denise cleans it away - but gets some on her hands.

Mel comes across Norman, the motel's somewhat slow handyman, who's raking the leaves on the drive. Norman confesses to Mel he's been in love with Denise for years - since 1988. Mel points out the year is 1988. Norman tells her it seems like it's been a very long year.

The Doctor is searching for Carol but she seems to have vanished. Examining some pamphlets in the lobby showing the locality, the Doctor decides he needs to find the TARDIS. He distracts Jane in order to steal her car and then tells Mel he's going to drive into the nearest town, Crotten, and get the TARDIS back. Mel, angry at his refusal to accept that life can just be ordinary for some people, nevertheless jumps in with him.

Jane discovers her car's been stolen, and complains to David. The Doctor is a lunatic, David assures her everything is under control. Denise stumbles up to them - she needs help. Her skin where she touched the liquid is turning silver.

Outside, the Doctor and Mel see Crotten in the far distance but as they drive on, a car suddenly appears in their path. There's the sound of screeching brakes. Mel screams

PART TWO

The Doctor and Mel have collided with another car. Luckily they are not hurt and clamber out to help the other driver. Mel's gobsmacked - it's her old school sweetheart, Danny..

Back at Traveller's Halt, Denise is confined to bed. Norman brings her flowers and wonders why her eyes are glowing silver. The Doctor and Mel enter with the injured Danny. Mel and Danny talk - a lot's happened since they were together. Mel admits she's thought often of Danny but she now seems a little uncomfortable around him. .

The Doctor is becoming ever more concerned, particularly about Denise. He tells Darling she's been contaminated by some kind of alien biotechnology, which is altering her genetic make-up. Darling scoffs, and sends Denise off to the (unseen) motel nurse. Jane reckons the Doctor should be locked away, but Darling thinks he's a harmless - and entertaining - eccentric. Jane immediately agrees with her husband, who seems to exert an almost hypnotic control over her.

The Doctor chats with Norman and asks if he's noticed anything strange recently - odd lights in the sky, that sort of thing. Norman hasn't. But the way he talks intrigues the Doctor. People say he's stupid, but Norman reckons he notices a lot of things nobody else has - like it's been 1988 for what seems like forever and nobody's getting any older.

Danny tells Mel he was on his way back down to Brighton to see his parents and thought he'd stop the night at the Motel. Mel pulls out a map from Danny's luggage and points out that the Motel must be miles out of his way. She asks him to point out where it is. Danny knows the Motel's near Birmingham but he can't show her precisely where. Mel thinks he's just shaken up by the accident - but she can't find Crotten anywhere on the map.

The Doctor bursts into Darling's office where he is talking to Jane, demanding to know if they'll listen to what he has to say. Before he can get any further, Mel and Denise enter. Denise reveals that her medical exam has confirmed only one thing - she's pregnant by Darling.

There is an unearthly screeching, like heavily distorted music. Mel and the Doctor cover their ears but everybody else immediately freezes. The Doctor tells Mel he's convinced this is the beginning of an invasion - some powerful alien force is stranded on Earth and it's flailing out illogically, trying to defend itself - and somehow it's affected Denise. That's what drew the TARDIS off course and now it seems to be affecting time itself.

Everyone suddenly springs back to life, picking up where they left off, shocked by Denise's announcement. The Doctor tries to alert them to the time distortion but they look at him as if he's mad and continue with their own arguments, leading to a distraught Denise running out of the office with David and Jane in hot pursuit.

Alone in the office, the Doctor asks Mel to check Denise's entry on the staff database but Mel is perplexed to find that the computer is just a screen and an

empty case, with no drive inside at all. Suddenly they are disturbed by a strange woman dressed exactly like Carol Chance The Doctor asks who she is and is told that she is Carol Chance - despite bearing no resemblance to the woman they met earlier

Jane, Denise and David stand in reception, rowing about the pregnancy and David's affair Jane screams that David can have Denise if that's what he wants and storms out An upset Denise runs outside The phone rings and David answers it A distorted, mechanical voice announces that the Doctor is fulfilling his role satisfactorily, but that something must be done to ensure that Mel follows hers. David agrees

The Doctor tells Mel that he is going to go and get the TARDIS back as things are getting dangerous. Mel says that she'll keep an eye on things here and anyway, she wants to talk to Danny They walk out into reception the Doctor heading out of the doors and Mel approaching Darling who is still on the phone He passes the receiver to her, saying that Danny is calling from his room for her. Mel is suddenly overcome by an unearthly electronic sound, which begins to invade her mind

Outside, the Doctor begins to walk down the gravel drive towards the main gates but finds the huddled form of Denise curled up in his path He dashes to her assistance but suddenly a terrifying transformation occurs. Denise becomes a slaving monster and leaps for his throat .

PART THREE

The Doctor is amazed when the echoing sound comes again and Denise just freezes, mid-pounce He runs off.

Inside, the Doctor confronts Mel - now he understands, or thinks he does Traveller s Halt might not be a real place at all Mel scoffs she s not really listening to him and is suddenly full of the joys of getting back with Danny The Doctor is grave.y worried

He finds Jane and David locked in an argument about David s infidelity with Denise He breaks it up, and tries to hypnotise Jane but gets nowhere - she can only quote things that have happened since she's been at Traveller s Halt Everything before is a blank

In the back room, Mel's amazed when Danny suddenly proposes to her - isn t this going a bit fast?

The Doctor changes tack and attempts to probe Darling - it looks like he's made a breakthrough, but suddenly Darling s voice changes and tells him not to interfere Walking in, Jane reacts, she's heard that voice before. Urgently, the Doctor asks her where, but before she can reply the Denise-monster enters and slays her The Doctor attempts to hold the creature back while Darling goes into a strange, corny soliloquy for his wife - then Denise returns to normal, and she and Darling instantly decide that perhaps they'll be better off without Jane The Doctor watches this in horror and then runs off

Danny tells Mel they can get married tomorrow if she wants Suddenly seeming very unlike her old self, Mel agrees and they embrace

The Doctor collars Norman and regresses him He succeeds in breaking the barrier and Norman reveals he's not a gardener, he's an actor He's been playing

Norman in a daytime soap opera called *Traveller's Halt* for fifteen years. He remembers the series being axed, and going in to film the final episode - but nothing else, as if his life stopped right there.

Things suddenly begin to slot into place in the Doctor's mind. The time breaks weren't that at all - they were some sort of commercial break - and they're all trapped in a time loop, with the inhabitants forced to play characters for some unknown purpose.

With Norman in tow, the Doctor tries to get through to Mel that this is all some kind of fictional simulation but she won't listen. She and Darling tell the Doctor he's invited to their double wedding.

The Doctor, in despair at being trapped here forever, pleads with Norman; was there a place in the Motel that was never seen in the programme? Norman reckons that's easy - the kitchens. The Doctor races there - but Darling is waiting.

Suddenly threatening, Darling tells the Doctor no one may enter the kitchens. The Doctor grabs Norman and pushes past him - and they fall into a screaming void.

PART FOUR

The Doctor and Norman emerge into a huge machine/organism. The Doctor postulates that if this is the kitchen, they must be cooking up something huge! They find a row of suspended animation pods - and inside are some non-speaking extras, the original Carol Chance and the - supposedly dead - Jane, now almost fully recovered.

Mel and Danny are preparing for their wedding. Mel is behaving as if this was the most natural thing in the world. Darling tells them and Denise that today will be the happiest day of their lives. Nothing can possibly go wrong. Romantic music swells.

The Doctor's amazed by the technology he's found - it's more advanced than anything he's ever encountered. He discovers the Central Intelligence, and interferes with its workings - and they hear the voice of Darling...

Darling's voice tells them they are inside all that remains of one of the oldest, mightiest civilizations in the universe. A race that existed longer than any other and evolved into immortal beings of pure thought. They were so jaded and full of ennui that they had no knowledge left to uncover - all that kept them going in the end was the Earth soap opera *Traveller's Halt*. When it was axed they used their phenomenal brains and their science to transport the cast to a time bubble on the day the last episode was filmed, built an environment for them and reprogrammed them using a powerful artificial intelligence created for this purpose. Then they were left to play out randomly generated storylines for all eternity.

Back in the motel the weddings are about to start when Darling receives a signal and leaves.

The Doctor is startled when all the extras, and the reprogrammed (original) Carol Chance - all now dressed in wedding gear - silently leave their pods, and head for the portal.

Norman wonders what's happened to the aliens. The Doctor postulates they couldn't save themselves, and melted away - this machinery is millennia old - but they built the controlling intelligence too well and it is still fulfilling its original programming. Suddenly the Doctor grasps it - when he and Mel turned up, it

scanned them and worked out the best way to incorporate them into the plots Hence he started fighting monsters - because that's what he does best - and Mel was presented with an impossible romantic affair with somebody from her distant past.

Danny and Mel tie the knot and Mel is blissfully happy They set off for their honeymoon suite - in Traveller's Halt, of course.

The Doctor discovers the enormously complex machine that generates the (deceptively simple) storylines for the soap They show that he has been written out and will die off screen, and Mel will be murdered by Danny on her honeymoon night

Suddenly Darling enters, now fully under the control of the Central Intelligence He advances on the Doctor with murderous intent - now for his off screen death. The Doctor quickly activates Jane's pod. She emerges as her real self and furiously confronts Darling - he's kept her in *Traveller's Halt* for fifteen billion years Reacting to her anger, the real Darling is brought out of his trance long enough for Norman to punch him out and shove him into the portal, where he vanishes back to the motel

Silencing their myriad questions, the Doctor tells Jane and Norman that the only way he can save them all is for them to go back in to the simulation They reluctantly obey

Alone, now, the Doctor frantically starts rewriting the storylines - and concocting the last ever episode of *Traveller's Halt*

In their room Danny and Mel celebrate with champagne. David suddenly picks up the bottle like a club and advances on the terrified Mel then, just as quickly, he drops the bottle and claims it was just a joke - the Doctor is exerting his control. Mel, snapping back to her real self flees the room

Darling, now back under the influence of the storylines, is about to marry Denise when Jane appears, claiming she faked her own death. Darling falls into her arms - and a distraught Denise is comforted by Norman, who proposes to her - and she accepts Mel arrives in the midst of this and Norman tells her not to worry - the Doctor is sorting everything out and they're quite safe .

But with plots being created and resolved so quickly, the delicate logic circuits of the Central Intelligence begin running too fast and the Doctor suddenly realises he's in terrible danger. As the machine begins to smoke and spit he quickly writes in the appearance of the TARDIS outside the motel and runs through the portal to the lobby He appears as a big businessman who's bought Traveller's Halt to develop into a nature reserve. He pays off the whole staff with huge sums of money and the unearthly music starts up again - it's the closing theme and the very end of *Traveller's Halt* .

The ground begins to shake and the sets begin to collapse The actors sink to their knees, and begin to pass out as the influence that has controlled them for so long is finally lifted Only Mel Norman and Jane seem able to snap out of it and they help the Doctor to drag the unconscious actors into the TARDIS, which disappears just as *Traveller's Halt* finally disintegrates

Cut to Earth, Birmingham, 1988 - the TARDIS appears in the deserted canteen of the TV studios and, having placed the dozing actors in the chairs to await their (real) final bow, the Doctor and Mel make their farewells to a bemused Norman and Jane.

The Doctor explains that, for them it'll be like they've been asleep only fifteen minutes in the canteen - not fifteen billion years in a black hole

As they leave, Norman and Jane are astonished to find that the money the Doctor conjured up for them is still real. It doesn't matter that they're about to be axed - they could buy the whole TV company now if they wanted!

Back in the TARDIS, Mel - still in full wedding attire - is somewhat upset that Danny wasn't for real. She knew he was too good to be true and despite it being fictional, the whirlwind romance was still rather wonderful. Smiling, the Doctor reckons there's only room for one man in her life - him!

The TARDIS sets off for new adventures

THE ONE DOCTOR: OUTLINE

By Gareth Roberts and Clayton Hickman



PART ONE

The far, far future. A very few millennia from the end of time itself, where virtually the whole universe knows everything there is to know. Time travel is as *passé* as space travel by this time, and some races treat travelling through the fourth dimension like a game. It's not an era the Doctor is fond of. Therefore when he and Mel pick up a faint distress signal from 'the vulgar end of time' as the Doctor describes it, he only grudgingly agrees to investigate.

The TARDIS lands in a crowded concourse on the planet Xarfos in the middle of a street party. The citizens are ecstatic - they've been saved! The Doctor and Mel discover from a young citizen, Sokkery, that the seventeen worlds in the Xarfoss System were lately threatened by the evil Skelloids. Luckily for the Xarfoss, the famous mysterious Time Lord known only as the Doctor was visiting and, together with his assistant Sally Anne, defeated the Skelloids. They're being feted in the Great Hall of Xarfos even now.

The Doctor's baffled - he's never been to Xarfos. Mel suggests he might be on the tail of a future self. The Doctor's sure he's not. He can't sense any time distortion. And there's something not quite right about any of this - he's certainly never heard of the Skelloids.

In the Great Hall of Xarfos, the Great Leader Potikol is thanking the Doctor and Sally-Anne. The 'Doctor' (who we will recognise as Biggins) has a small request of the Xarfoss - he needs money to buy a new stock of the crystals that power his TARDIS. Diamonds, to be exact. Potikol is taken aback, but has to agree.

When Potikol's out of earshot, the 'Doctor' and Sally-Anne confer. Sally-Anne

reckons this job's been a pushover - the Xarfoss have been the doziest mugs yet She steals a kiss from the 'Doctor' as they crack open another free crate of space beer.

The Doctor and Mel can't get into the Great Hall, which is being mobbed by grateful Xarfoss No pass, no entry. The Doctor grabs Sokkery's copy of the *Xarfoss Evening Visi-Echo*, and sees an image of 'the Doctor'. He's never seen that face before, but it certainly isn't him..

Potikol greets the now somewhat merry 'Doctor' and Sally-Anne. There's a problem - the computer links to the Great Bank of Xarfos have been interfered with by a piece of space flotsam that's crept into the system A dredger's been sent up to clear it out of the way - then all will be well and the diamonds delivered. Sally-Anne's worried, but the 'Doctor' tells her to keep a steady heart. She thwacks him as he pinches the bottom of a passing servant girl

The real Doctor hypnotises a guard and slips into the Great Hall with Mel Mel thinks this is all crazy.

Potikol gets a message from the dredger - it's been destroyed by the UFO'

The Doctor and Mel burst in on the 'Doctor' and Sally-Anne The Doctor accuses his namesake of deliberate impersonation, and after verifying he's not even a Time Lord, demands he stops his scam right now. The 'Doctor' gets nasty - this quadrant of space is his patch, so bugger off The Doctor fumes - he's the Doctor, the genuine article The 'Doctor' scoffs - yeah, right.

Sally-Anne calls for guards. The Doctor and Mel are unceremoniously bundled away and dumped in the cells to cool off Potikol sweeps in, alarmed - the destructive alien object has changed course and it's heading straight for Xarfos Only the Doctor can save them now! The 'Doctor' gulps

In the cells Mel tries to persuade the Doctor that the two con-artists aren't doing much harm The Doctor's fuming when suddenly a wave of alien sonic energy descends upon the planet It's destroying their minds!

PART TWO

The soundwave dissipates and an evil alien voice is heard. It's coming from the UFO It demands 'TRIBUTE' The three most precious objects from the Xarfos system must be provided within six hours, or it will destroy the entire system

Potikol is distraught, and begs the 'Doctor' for help The 'Doctor' is surprisingly calm; he tells Potikol to bring the TARDIS to the Great Hall Sally-Anne's pleased They're going to do a runner, then? The 'Doctor' is miffed. Hasn't she twigged? This alien voice is the other feller's version of the Skelloids - part of his scam. They've got to find him and get rid of him, he's a threat to their whole operation

Mel reckons the Voice must be a part of the false Doctor's scam - but the real Doctor certain that it's kosher Potikol, very distracted, comes in to see them, and authorises their release. The Doctor begs him to listen, but Potikol isn't interested in their ravings - he must supervise the delivery of the TARDIS to the Great Hall The Doctor's intrigued - this he must see

The 'Doctor' and Sally-Anne argue - Sally-Anne reckons they should clear out The Doctor and Mel enter, left to wander in all the confusion. The impostor compliments the Doctor on his technique, and then angrily tells him to clear off The Doctor tries to convince him they're in genuine danger Suddenly the Voice is heard again

TRIBUTE IS REQUIRED! To prove its point, it devastates the eleventh planet, a small mining colony Suddenly, the 'Doctor' is rather worried

The 'TARDIS' is brought in - it's a simple teleport capsule in disguise The impostor goes in, telling Potikol he'll be back when he's completed the three tasks set by the Voice. Potikol gives him a list of the three greatest treasures of Xarfos Sally-Anne follows. The Doctor grabs Mel and they dash in just as the capsule is about to leave

The capsule dematerializes but won't go far The Doctor tells the impostor it's the UFO - it's immobilized all rudimentary computers in the system He takes control, materializing the capsule - inside the real TARDIS They can use it to find the tribute. The Doctor also discovers that the ship has effectively sealed the entire system Nothing can get in and out and no time travel is possible They really do have only a few hours to complete their tasks. The impostor wants out but the Doctor's having none of it. They need all hands if they're going to crack this one

The TARDIS lands on Xarfos 8, where Mel and Sally Anne are paired off to acquire the first Great Treasure, then the Doctor and the Impostor set off. They'll collect the girls later.

Xarfos 8 is home of Xarfos's most successful export business - the entire planet has become a furniture and DIY emporium run by robots No human has dared to venture here in centuries, since the robot Assemblers took over Potikol's list specifies Shelving Unit XZ419 as the Great Treasure The enthusiastic Mel and the unenthusiastic Sally Anne begin to search the storage bays . but they are not alone.

The Doctor and the Impostor arrive on Xarfos 3, home of the second Great Treasure - the Intelligence Mentos, an immortal artificial brain that can answer any question But they seem to have arrived backstage in a TV studio. They wander onto the brightly coloured set - and find themselves in front of a vast audience A woman starts to ask them pointless and embarrassing personal questions over techno music The Doctor protests - where is Mentos? This is urgent! The woman huffs. She *fs* Mentos.

Mel and Sally-Anne are creeping round the bays. Mel's sure she's found the right item when suddenly they are surrounded by Assemblers. .

PART THREE

Mel tries to explain their mission to the Assemblers The First Assembler rejects the advice of the Second Assembler, that the intruders are organic spies and must be killed He has a better idea If they want Item XZ419 they can have it His words have a dark subtext.

The Doctor tries to explain his mission to Mentos, but Mentos is more interested in his personal life and keeps deflecting his questions with crude innuendo She blindfolds them and asks them to feel various protuberances of alien species and thus identify them in her top rated show 'Touch the Tentacle' The Doctor despairs. He tells the Impostor that Mentos must have tired of its great knowledge and dedicated itself to doing the stupidest possible thing it could. The Impostor has an idea. He joins in with gusto.

The First Assembler tells Mel and Sally-Anne they have one hour to assemble Item XZ419. Something no puny organic could ever do If they fail, the Assemblers will

disassemble them as a warning to all their fleshy kind. Sally-Anne despairs – they'll never do it. Mel's determined – she'll use her capacity for total recall and computer programming skills. But she despairs when she starts to read the instructions – it's going to be tough.

The Impostor flirts wildly with Mentos as the game goes on. The Doctor's very disapproving – this is getting them nowhere.

Mel's puzzled. She's sure some parts of the Shelves keep appearing and disappearing – and the instructions keep changing too. Sally-Anne slumps in a maudlin heap.

The Impostor's doing very well, with some help from the Doctor. Until the final round, when he claims what he's holding is a Zarbi. Mentos says he's wrong – it's a Navarino. The Impostor is furious, accusing Mentos of being wrong. Mentos fumes – she is never wrong. She is Mentos! The true personality of the Intelligence breaks through. Full of shame, she agrees to come with them. The Impostor turns smugly to the Doctor – one up to him.

Mel realises the Shelves are a cheat. Parts of them keep slipping into other dimensions – they can never be fully assembled. It's this unique property that makes them such a Great Treasure: the Assemblers have learnt to manipulate dimensions in an astonishingly complex and beautiful way. Sally-Anne reckons their number's up. Mel sees a glimmer of hope.

Mel tells the Assemblers she's completed the task. The confused Assemblers examine the Shelves. Mel confuses them using their own instructions. The TARDIS appears, and Mel grabs Sally-Anne and the Shelves. She explains – the Shelves of Infinity have never been assembled, so how could the Assemblers know she was lying? By the time the Assemblers realise they've been tricked, the TARDIS is on its way.

In the TARDIS, the four travellers examine the list of Treasures. The quest for the third will take them to the dead planet Xarfos 10 – the Third Great Treasure is the Great Jewel of Xarfos – the largest diamond in the galaxy.

The TARDIS lands and the four travellers emerge. The Great Stone is in clear view, totally unguarded. The Doctor steps forward – and a huge, monstrous jelly monster lurches from hiding and gobbles him up.

PART FOUR

Mel pleads with the Monster and explains the danger they're all in and it spits the Doctor out. It introduces itself as the Guardian of Xarfos, last survivor of the jelly creatures that lived here. The Jellies were incredibly long-lived single cell organisms, he was the youngest, and has lived for seventy million years of unendurable boredom. He has arranged for the delivery of a home entertainment link from a distant star system inhabited by similar beings. They will deliver at any time in a forty thousand year span, and he's getting annoyed waiting for them.

The Doctor and co explain their pressing need for the Great Jewel. The Jelly understands the situation, and will gladly hand it over – the only trouble is, he must roll over the hill to personally switch off the force field that protects the Jewel. And if he moves, he's sure that the delivery craft will appear – it's sod's law. The Doctor assures him all will be fine. If the craft turns up they'll tell the deliverers to wait. The Jelly rolls off to switch off the force field.

Back on Xarfos 1, Councillor Potikol is startled by the Cylinder Voice. It tells him they have just ten minutes left. Potikol urges the Doctor on.

As they wait, Sally-Ann complains to the Impostor. She wants out - this is their last scam. The Impostor is distracted by a buzzing insect but tells her to keep quiet - she's got no nerve.

The Jelly rolls back into view, and the Doctor, Jewel in hand, thanks it. The Jelly gets distraught: it's been left a telepathic message by the deliverers saying it wasn't in. The Doctor realises the Deliverers were what they thought was a buzzing insect - they're only a micron long. The Jelly bemoans its luck and, as the Doctor sympathetically listens, the Impostor makes a grab for the crystal. With Sally-Ann in tow, he dashes into the TARDIS and dematerialises. He'll get the glory for this little job, and who knows what the rewards from the Xarfos will be?

The Doctor is livid. Is there nothing to which that man will not stoop? The Jelly sullen and sulky, intimates that he might have a solution. Mel coos and clucks over him until he finally suggests they might like to make use of his transmat portal, by which the deliverers arrived. It should get them back to Xarfon 1 sharpish.

Aboard the TARDIS, the Impostor is attempting to pilot the craft to the throne room and having a little difficulty. Sally-Ann is ever more annoyed at his behaviour. She quite liked the real Doctor.

The Cylinder is now hovering over Xarfon city. Despite Potikol's protests and desperate pleas for more time, it extends its deadly Destructor Ray. The TARDIS appears and the Impostor rushes out with the Three Great Tributes. The Cylinder examines them and is pleased. Just then the Doctor and Mel materialise in the throne room and the Impostor calls on Potikol's guards to surround them. The Cylinder voice suddenly booms out. It wonders who found these objects, they should be rewarded. The Impostor steps forward - he did. The Voice asks his name. The Impostor says he is known as the Doctor. Mel's furious: the Impostor's going to take all the credit. The Doctor shushes her.

The Cylinder urges the 'Doctor' to step forward and then it fixes him in a force field. This was a test - only the legendary Doctor could have completed the tasks in the time. And its (unnamed) creators want to punish the elusive Doctor for thwarting their plans all through time. He has fallen into their trap. The Doctor, Mel and Sally-Ann watch in horror as the Impostor, now protesting he is not the Doctor, is sucked into the Cylinder, to be imprisoned forever in a time bubble. It disappears and the Xarfon system is freed.

Potikol is distraught. What an awful fate to befall their saviour - but at least the Treasures are safe. The Doctor tells Mel he'd worked out what was happening when he saw the Cylinder close up just now; he recognised the technology of a race of his old enemies. Mel reckons he can be too clever for his own good now and again.

Sally-Ann tells the Doctor she's at a loose end without her boyfriend - and she'd quite like to become a real companion as she thinks it might be 'a laugh'. Just then she is distracted as Potikol and his council roll up to pay tribute to her. The Doctor quickly bundles Mel into the TARDIS and dematerialises. He'd rather be imprisoned in a time bubble than have to travel with Sally-Ann!

Mel asks after the Impostor - he wasn't really all that bad, she protests. The Doctor half-heartedly agrees. He's sure they could affect some sort of rescue. He smiles 'In time..'

THE ONE DOCTOR: DOCTOR WHO AND MEL'S CHRISTMAS

Hastily written by Clayton Hickman

FX – Jingle Bells-y music. Would be nice if it vaguely echoed the Doctor Who theme Fade up TARDIS in-flight hum. DOCTOR WHO and MELANIE are seated in armchairs before a blazing fire.

- DOCTOR WHO** That was absolutely splendid, Mel.¹
- MELANIE** Thank you Doctor.
- DOCTOR WHO** The best nut roast I can remember.²
- MELANIE** It took me a while to get to grips with that peculiar oven back there, but it wasn't bad, was it?
- DOCTOR WHO** Delicious The food machine is a useful device, but lacking in panache if you fancy anything more adventurous than bacon and eggs.³
- MELANIE** So what would you like to do now?
- DOCTOR WHO** Well, this is your Christmas Day, remember?
- MELANIE** Yes. This was a very good idea of yours, actually.
- DOCTOR WHO** That's the thing with time travel it's so easy to let things slip. I forgot to celebrate my birthday for two decades, once (*Conspiratorially*) Still, it means that nobody knows how close to the big nine-four-oh I really am.⁴
- MELANIE** Your secret's safe with me, Doctor! (*Sighs*) You know, this rather reminds me of the Christmasses back home in Pease Pottage Presents, lunch, a roaring fire. Bliss!
- DOCTOR WHO** Shame about the temporal drift compensators.
- MELANIE** They'll soon dry out. And it was a lovely thought to make it snow in the control room
- DOCTOR WHO** But not very practical, eh? I never could resist showing off! (*He chuckles*) But anyway, what shall we do now?⁵ What was the form back home?
- MELANIE** We'd just sit around, perhaps have a sherry and watch the Queen's speech
- DOCTOR WHO** Well the sherry's no problem. It is Christmas, after all
- FX* – He uncorks a bottle and pours two glasses.
- MELANIE** (*Taking a sip*) Oh that's lovely.
- DOCTOR WHO** And as for the other...
- FX* – He gets up
- MELANIE** Where are you off to?⁶
- DOCTOR WHO** (*Slightly off-mic*) Ah, here we are.⁷
- FX* – DOCTOR WHO wheeling something in on squeaky castors. He puffs and pants a little. It's large and heavy.
- DOCTOR WHO** What do you think, Mel?⁸
- MELANIE** What is it?
- DOCTOR WHO** Oh, I'll take the dust sheet off
- FX* He does so
- MELANIE** Um. What is it?⁸
- DOCTOR WHO** This, Miss Bush, is the Time/Space Visualiser.⁹ We can

tune into any event anywhere in the universe and anywhen in history
The Queen's Speech should be a doddle.¹⁰

FX - A radio-esque whine of static.

DOCTOR WHO Now where did I put that remote control? Are you sitting on it, Mel?

FX - She rummages down the side of her chair.

MELANIE Is this it?

DOCTOR WHO Aha!

FX - He sits down again.

DOCTOR WHO Now, let's see...

FX - He presses some buttons on the remote. The whine of static changes in pitch.

DOCTOR WHO The Queen's speech...

FX- The static begins to clear.

MELANIE Something's beginning to come through...

FX: The static resolves itself.

QUEEN ELIZABETH I ...may have the body of a weak and feeble woman, but I have the heart and stomach of a king!

FX: A crowd cheers

MELANIE (*Laughs*) I think you might have gone a little too far back, Doctor!

DOCTOR WHO (*Mildly huffy*) Well, if your country will have two Queen Elizabeths, what do you expect?¹¹

MELANIE I suppose it won't be Top of the Pops next, either?

FX- The static returns in B/G

DOCTOR WHO Perhaps we shouldn't risk it, eh?

MELANIE (*Laughs*) Oh, Merry Christmas, Doctor!

DOCTOR WHO (*Laughs*) Merry Christmas, Mel¹²

FX - The clink of their sherry glasses

DOCTOR WHO And, incidentally, a very Merry Christmas to all of you at home!¹³

Fade up the Jingle Bells-y theme. Mix in TARDIS vworping off to new adventures.¹⁴ FADE.

NOTES

N.B. This scene was included as a hidden bonus track on the CD issue of *The One Doctor*. Colin Baker and Bonnie Langford played DOCTOR WHO and MELANIE, whilst QUEEN ELIZABETH I was played by Jane Goddard. Gary Russell: 'Clayton wrote this at my request. My only suggestion was that it end with the "And a very Merry Christmas" joke.'

1. Line changed to: 'Oh, that was absolutely splendid, Mel.'
2. Line changed to: 'Quite the best nut-roast I can remember.'
3. Line changed to: 'The food machine is a useful device, but it lacks panache if you fancy anything more adventurous than bacon and eggs.'
4. Line changed to: 'Still, it means that nobody knows how close to the big nine **three** oh I really am.'
5. Line changed to: 'But anyway, what shall we do now?'
6. Deleted dialogue - MELANIE: 'Where are you off to?'

7. Deleted dialogue - DOCTOR WHO: '~~Ah, here we are.~~'
8. Line changed to: '~~Um.~~ What is it?'
9. Added dialogue - MELANIE: '~~Ah...~~'
10. Line changed to: 'The Queen's Speech should be **no problem.**'
11. Line changed to: 'Well, if your country will have two Queen Elizabeths, ~~what do you expect?~~'
12. In this and the preceding line, "Merry Christmas" is replaced by "Happy Christmas".
13. Line changed to: 'And, ~~incidentally,~~ a very Merry Christmas to all of you at home!'
14. The TARDIS dematerialisation noise is absent.

THE ONE DOCTOR: 'SUPERBRAIN' QUESTIONS

By Gareth Roberts & Clayton Hickman

The grandson of Earth's greatest ever politician negotiated a non-aggression pact with Ambrox 9 in 2110. Name him.

Robbie Williams III

A stassit is to the Turbrons as a Karbol is to which race?

The Meethropods

Which comedian once said, 'You can take a Pescaton to water, but you can't make him sink'?

Gantax Nondman

From which planet do the famed Master Bakers run their patisserie empire?

Barastabon

What comes next in this sequence. S4 Z4 L1 K3?

B14

The Argons hail from which planet?

Arg

And for a bonus point, name their leader.

The Great Rangdo of Arg

The protective shells of which race are used to make Feltahm Paste?

The Hisperas Collective

Which team did the Shivron support in 'Beelzegg'?

The Shavro of Shivron.

Who fought the Mingons?

The Thrabes of Gingolo

Whose battle cry was 'Death to the Frotas'?

The Nancek.

Where was the Treaty of Venus signed?

Mars.

Who described his mother as 'a single-celled amoeba of no repute or import'?

Fara the Ferce

What was the immediate effect of the Vibrations of Vaal on the citizens of Stannos?

Their hair began growing again.

What is the best time for planting dokes?

During the Season of All Drains.

Pop music – who had a hit with *Din-fo-pok*?

Normak Pring.

Politics – with whom did the Great Chair Creature of Galactikos conduct an extra-marital affair?

Norm of Taan.

What was unusual about the Elevation of Delmos's eleventh and twelfth periods of office?

They were non-consecutive.

Name the inventor of Ocean Juice.

Odysseus Potato

Which visistar was reported to have said, 'Is that a staser in your holster or have you erupted into pustules'?

Morgana Kart.

'The magnification of the moons of Kex' was the first instalment in which blockbusting inter-trilogy?

The Frab Saga.

How was X-Zimpli of Tench killed?

She drowned in a pool of her own life fluids when her pod sac burst.

Which race was described by Zartian 5 as 'a transparent opacity'?

The Poets of Koj.

How long did the seventy-year war of Harat last?

Seventy-one years.

Who fired the opening shot in the Arrowmaster Conflict?

The Jamary.

Why was the Derby of Phinta cancelled?

A hoax bomb threat made by Phintan separatists.

In needlework – is the urk a forestitch or a backstitch?

A backstitch.

Which regiment of Vri were sent to the Graj frontline last?

The tenth.

THE ONE DOCTOR: TRAILER

By Clayton Hickman

Outer-space 'rumble'.¹ Mysterious, menacing music through this whole sequence. The voice-over should be of the deep, American-accented, overly dramatic variety.

VOICE-OVER A deadly danger from the depths of space...²
Then, as if over an echoey PA:

(Scene 16)

CYLINDER VOICE Citizens of Generios, you will listen.

Cut to interior of TARDIS:

VOICE-OVER And only two people stand between it and the innocent populations of seventeen planets...

(Scene 1)

MELANIE These readings... the TARDIS is way off course...

DOCTOR WHO Way, way off course... we've drifted millennia into the far future...³

Back to outer-space atmos:

(Scene 16)

CYLINDER VOICE I have been sent to collect Tribute!

Back to TARDIS atmos:

VOICE-OVER SHE!... was a computer programmer from Sussex...

(Scene 3)

MELANIE So - where exactly are we?

VOICE-OVER HE!... was a Time Lord from Gallifrey...

DOCTOR WHO The vulgar end of time.

Back to outer-space atmos.

VOICE-OVER But can they save millions of lives... alone?

(Scene 16)

CYLINDER VOICE I must have the three greatest treasures of the Generios System. Or I will destroy you all!

Dramatic sting.

VOICE-OVER Coming soon from Big Finish Productions, a story of suspense...⁴

Cut to exterior of Generios. Party atmosphere:

(Scene 4)

DOCTOR WHO What's happened? We've only just arrived. We picked up a distress call.

SOKKERY Sorry... wasted journey. *(Cut dialogue)* We've been saved... the Skelloids are vanquished...

DOCTOR WHO So - what became of these 'Skelloids'?

SOKKERY The Doctor sorted them out for us, didn't he?

DOCTOR WHO ...did you say the Doctor?⁵

Another dramatic sting.

VOICE-OVER A story of modesty and understatement.⁶

We hear the crowd chanting 'WE WANT THE DOCTOR!', loudly. This fades into the echoing atmos of the Council Chamber.

(Scene 5)

POTIKOL (Combines several lines) Doctor, Doctor... you've done so much for us - saved the seventeen planets from certain annihilation... How can we ever repay you (CUT: for saving us?)⁷

BANTO ZAME I don't expect repayment - the work I do is reward in itself. Anyway... Sally-Anne and I really must get back to the STARDIS.⁸ Back outside. Atmos less important now.

VOICE-OVER A story of stoic concern...⁹

(Scene 4)

MELANIE You're really rattled, aren't you?

DOCTOR WHO Yes. Because if I didn't save this planet from the evil Skelloids - who is the Doctor that did...?¹⁰

Echoey metallic background FX:

VOICE-OVER And a story of fairly challenging DIY...¹¹

(Scene 32)

MELANIE 'Slot stanchion G into the base unit...' Hold on, I'm certain I've already done that...

BANTO ZAME That was stanchion D, and it wasn't the base unit, it was the central support stand!¹²

Appropriate clangs. Fade this out.

Back to spacey atmos. Bring stirring music up:

VOICE-OVER Colin Baker... Bonnie Langford... and Christopher Biggins in a story which proves that two's a crowd.

(Would be nice to mispronounce and mis-stress the names: e.g. COELin Baker. Bonnie LangFORD. ChrisTOFFer Biggins...?)

Any B/G will do:

(Scene 21)

BANTO ZAME Listen, do I have to get nasty?

DOCTOR WHO I wouldn't advise it!¹³

VOICE-OVER Doctor Who - The One Doctor. Coming this Christmas to a CD player near you. There can be only one...¹⁴

Music builds to crescendo:

(Scene 43)

CYLINDER VOICE Bring me the Tribute! The Tribute, I say!

In, quick:

(Scene 5)

BANTO ZAME What a plank!

Final, comedic 'sting'. A-la the end of The Holy Terror trailer.

NOTES

N.B. This trailer first appeared at the end of the Big Finish Doctor Who CD *Colditz*, released in October 2001. A second, reworked version appeared on the following month's release, *Primeval*. In November 2002, incidental music from *The One Doctor* was featured on *Doctor Who: Music From The Sixth Doctor Audio Adventures*, and was prefaced on that CD by the second trailer, with a couple of minor tweaks. All edits were based on the above script. Unless specified, the VOICE-OVER was performed by Alistair Lock.

1. Added dialogue. In the first version of the trailer, there is an opening VOICE-OVER: 'Coming soon from Big Finish Productions - *Doctor Who: The One Doctor...*' In the second version, it's changed to: 'Coming soon... Coming soon... Coming soon...' (For the version used on the *Music* CD, the opening is performed by Nicholas Briggs: '*Doctor Who... Doctor Who...*')

2. In the first edit of the trailer, all of VOICE-OVER's scripted lines are absent.

3. In the second edit of the trailer, this line is changed to: 'Way, way off course... ~~we've drifted millennia into the far future...~~'

4. In the second version, line changed to: 'Coming soon from Big Finish Productions, a **ta**le of suspense...' (In the *Music* edit, the phrase 'Coming soon' is replaced by '**Available now**'.)

5. In the second version of the trailer, this clip was changed to:
DOCTOR WHO What's happened? ~~We've only just arrived. We~~
~~picked up a distress call.~~

SOKKERY ~~Sorry... wasted journey. (Cut dialogue) We've~~
~~been saved... the Skelloids are vanquished...~~

DOCTOR WHO ~~So - what become of these "Skelloids"?~~

SOKKERY The Doctor sorted them out for us, didn't he?

DOCTOR WHO ...did you say the Doctor?

In the first edit, DOCTOR WHO's line is different (as it is in Part One of *The One Doctor*): 'So - what **happened** to these "Skelloids"?'

6. In the second version, line changed to: 'A **drama** of modesty and understatement.'

7. In the first edit, line changed to: '(*Combines several lines*) Doctor, Doctor... you've done so much for us - ~~saved the seventeen planets from certain annihilation...~~ How can we ever repay you (*CUT: for saving us?*)' In the second version, the entire line was deleted.

8. After this line in the first version, the following was added:

(Scene 4)

MELANIE Looks like you've already saved the day, then. Beaten yourself to it.

DOCTOR WHO I somehow doubt it. I've never been to Genieros before.

(Scene 7)

SALLY-ANNE You don't reckon they've rumbled us? We ought to get out of here.

RANTO ZAME And lose our chance of a hundred million credits?

In the second version, the line was changed to: 'I don't expect repayment - the work I do is reward in itself. ~~Anyway... Sally Anne and I really must get back to the STARDIS.~~'

9. In the second edit, line changed to: '**An epic legend** of stoic concern...'

10. In the first edit, this line is as in the script. In the second version, this line was replaced with:

DOCTOR WHO Yes. ~~Because if I didn't save this planet from the evil Skelleide—who is the Doctor that did...?~~

Echoey metallic background FX:

VOICE-OVER A fable of unbridled passion.

(Scene 23)

DOCTOR WHO Sally-Anne, is it?

SALLY-ANNE Yeah.

DOCTOR WHO You can take your hands away now.

SALLY-ANNE Oh.

DOCTOR WHO Thank you.

11. In the first version of the trailer, everything from this point until CYLINDER VOICE's line, 'Bring me the Tribute! The Tribute I say!' is deleted. In the second version, this line was changed to: 'And a **compelling** story of fairly challenging DIY.'

12. In the second version, deleted dialogue – BANTO ZAME: '~~That was stanchion D, and it wasn't the base unit, it was the central support stand!~~'

13. In the second version, added dialogue –

DOCTOR WHO I'm quite capable of defending myself.

BANTO ZAME *(Louder)* Oh *yes?* Yes, yes?

DOCTOR WHO *(Louder, over BANTO ZAME's line)* Yes! Yes, yes!

MELANIE *(Yelling)* Quiet!

14. In the *Music* version of the trailer, line changed to: '**The One Doctor – the one soundtrack. Available in a few seconds on this CD.** There can be only one.'